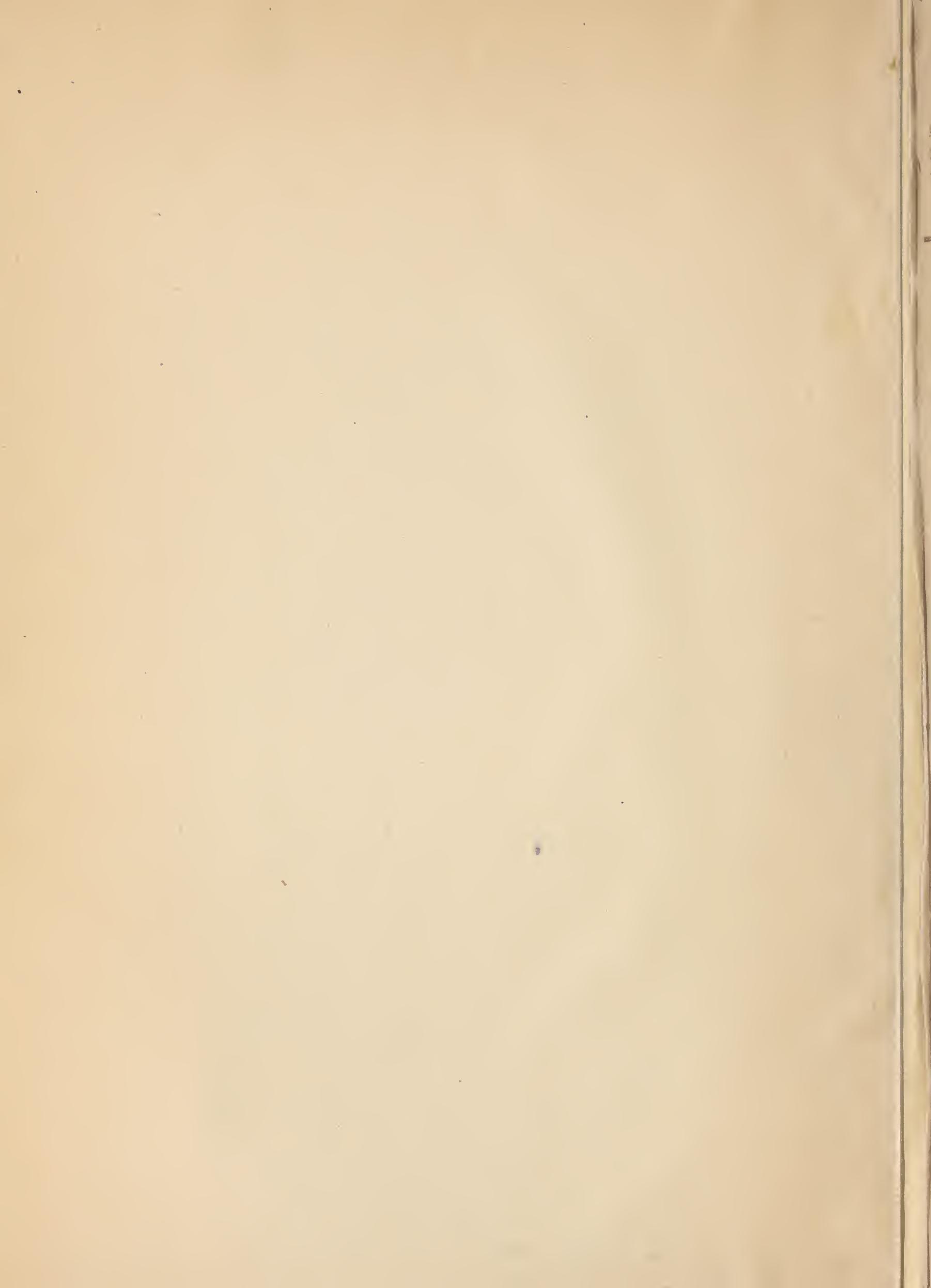


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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 1.

Section 1.

April 1, 1922.

Government  
Radio Service

January 1, 1924. (Press, Apr. 1.)

Under a compromise conference agreement the use of Government radio service by the press and for commercial messages will be extended to June 30, 1925, but because of treaty provisions such service to China will be terminated

Senator Norris  
Urges Pushing  
Muscle Shoals

Commencement of work to complete the Wilson dam and construct dam No. 3 at Muscle Shoals under Government appropriation and supervision, will be proposed to the Senate, Chairman Norris, of the Committee on Agriculture, announced March 31 upon his return from inspection of the Alabama properties with other senators and members of the House Military Affairs Committee.

Mr. Ford's Plans  
for Muscle Shoals

Plans of Henry Ford in connection with the Muscle Shoals project to develop the water power of the Upper Tennessee River and its tributaries were revealed March 31. The new proposal was discussed at a conference at Washington between Assistant Secretary of Commerce Huston, J. W. Worthington, attorney for Mr. Ford, and a delegation from Knoxville, Tenn. It contemplates the construction of immense storage reservoirs in Eastern Tennessee, according to those attending the conference, for use during dry periods. The water would be utilized during these periods for the generation of electric power at the site of storage dams, when it would be permitted to flow back into the river. (Press, Apr. 1.)

Center Market  
Valuation

Setting \$960,250 as a fair value for Center Market property, at Seventh street and Pennsylvania avenue northwest, the Washington market commission, appointed six months ago by President Harding to fix the value of the property, which is to be taken over by the Department of Agriculture, yesterday filed its award. This figure is the valuation set by a majority of the commission, Frank A. Horne and John M. Walker. Louis A. Dent, the third member of the commission, in a minority report, places the value of the market at \$1,506,201.60, giving as his reasons the fact that several persons called on to testify were entirely too low in their estimates. Counsel contend that the property is easily worth \$2,000,000, and that to reproduce the building would cost that much, if not more. (Press, Apr. 1.)

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## Section 2.

Agricultural 1. The War Finance Corporation announces that from March 27, to Financing March 29, 1922, inclusive, it approved 76 advances, aggregating \$2,200,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes in 21 States. (W. F. C. press statement, Mar. 30.)

2. "Intermediate Credits" is the title of an editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for March 24, which says in part: "Several bills now before Congress provide for various methods of supplying a type of credit between the short-time credit furnished by the banks and the long-time credit based on land mortgages. The farmers are not asking greater liberality in the matter of short-time loans. They are asking for a new type of credit better adapted to their financial needs. The short-time credit that keeps city business going is inordinately expensive and unsatisfactory as a means of financing farm business. Except for short-time feeding of beef cattle, there is no farm operation which can be completed and the original investment returned inside of three months. The most rapidly maturing field crop will hardly turn over the investment in seed, fertilizer and labor in less than four months. Cattle on long feed require from six months to two years. The hog man needs at least seven months, from farrowing time until the pigs are sold. If he requires a loan to purchase sows, it will be practically a year before he can realize on the investment. The only remarkable feature of the farmer's attitude on credits is his patience in waiting so long for a reform. What he is trying to do now is to show bankers and manufacturers generally what they should know without being told: that it is no more possible to make use of the credit system of city business in an efficient way on the farm than it is to use a trolley car to do the plowing."

## Agricultural Situation

The Journal of Commerce for March 30 says in an editorial entitled "Agricultural Improvement": "A decidedly different tone is now perceptible in current reports emanating from the agricultural sections of the country. For some time past there has been a positive and well-maintained upward tendency in the prices of a number of farm and range products. To just what extent these sundry commodities were still in the hands of the farmers when values began to rise is not definitely known. In several respects, however, this better market for agricultural products helps and will redound to the benefit of the farmers. It should measurably improve the credit situation both by reason of the liquidation of frozen loans thus made possible and because of the better outlook for ready and profitable sale of the coming crops. ... It is of no small interest to note that the causes of this improvement have no relation to the numerous 'cures' or 'aids' that were undertaken by the Federal Government in behalf of the farmer. Distinct help here and there -- but possibly no inconsiderable harm -- may be attributed to the efforts of the War Finance Corporation. However, not even the most enthusiastic friend of the policy of that body is apt seriously to give it credit in major respect for the better situation of the farmer."

## Canadian Grain Rates

Reduction on lake and rail freight rates on grain and grain products of 5 1/2 cents per 100 pounds of grain for domestic consumption at destination and 1 per cent for export applicable between head of the lakes and points in Eastern Canada and Eastern U.S., were announced by Canadian Pacific Railway officials March 30. (Press, Mar. 31)



## Cooperation

"Cooperation Regulates Competition" is the title of an editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for April 1, which says in part: "The advantages of cooperation are not always reflected by increased prices for products which the cooperators sell or lower ones for those they buy. Neither is it always the case that cooperative marketing proves more efficient or less costly than other systems. ... One very important feature of cooperation is in keeping the course of competition free and open and in providing a lever which is a powerful factor in forcing fair prices for farmers' products. It is a case where the absence of farmer cooperation might lead to evil marketing tendencies and practices on the part of buyers in failing to give the farmer what he justly deserves for his products. The farmers' cooperative grain elevators are a good example. Before their entry into the marketing field we all know of the depressed and uncertain grain prices through the efforts of the old line grain elevators to pay what they pleased, and how the farmers' elevators forced a higher level of prices for grain at the local markets. Now we find farmers' elevators and the old line buyers in competition in the same town, paying practically the same prices; or perhaps the old line company may occasionally outbid the farmers. But that does not mean that the cooperative concern has not succeeded by failing to drive its competitor out of business entirely. The question that the farmer cooperators want to keep in mind is, what would be the condition of the local grain trade were there no cooperative elevators to provide this competitive buying. The old line elevators would have things their own way and the control of the grain trade would be much more effective than it is under present conditions."

## Cotton Inquiry

1. Commenting upon the Senate's adoption of Senator Dial's resolution for an inquiry into the reasons for present cotton conditions The Wall Street Journal for March 31 says: "Such an investigation seems as harmless -- and useless -- as threshing old straw. If the commission will turn to official records it will find that in the five years before the war this country exported 44,198,000 bales of cotton of 500 pounds each. From other official records it will find this was about 65 per cent of the production. Notwithstanding the assertion, so often made congressionally, of our independence of Europe, if that market had not taken this huge quantity of cotton from us the price would hardly have bought feed for the mules that cultivated it. Last year Senate and House created a joint commission to look into the agricultural crisis. Its inquiries have been searching, and, in dealing with cotton it reported: 'Exports of cotton declined in marked contrast to the increase in exports of wheat and wheat flour, and the price of cotton fell relatively below the price of wheat and wheat flour. ...' Loss of 45 per cent of a market that takes 65 per cent of the product is sufficient to explain a decline, without saying anything about domestic consumption. Commissions may investigate, but there is no escaping the fact that Europe is the key to the cotton situation, and further discussion would lead into matters like German reparations and Russian rehabilitation. It is true that the boll weevil now threatens a cotton famine in the next season that may well stimulate prices for the time being, but a healthy, permanent change in the cotton business can come only as Europe improves, and at about the same pace. We are permanently enriched by their prosperity only and not by their poverty."



Cotton Inquiry

2. The Journal of Commerce for March 31 says in an editorial entitled "Another Cotton Inquiry": "The Senate, in ordering another inquiry into the methods resorted to by cotton exchanges and in calling for additional data respecting production and distribution of various grades and types of the staple, is in effect repeating work that has often been done in the past. Indeed, between the year 1900 and the present time there have probably been few sessions of Congress outside those held during the war when there was not something of the sort on the boards. Either a Congressional committee was 'probing' the methods of the exchanges or anti-futures legislation was in process of drafting or passage, or some Government commission was engaged in 'investigating.' The only explanation that can be given for these repeated inquiries is the desire for political capital on the part of incoming statesmen who have forgotten what was done a session or two earlier by their predecessors or who are too indolent to send to the library for the massive tomes in which the results of the older investigations are recorded. There has been no recent change in the methods of the cotton exchanges of the country that would warrant an 'investigation,' the only development of importance being found in the illegal practices of certain so-called cotton exchanges. These, fortunately, are being looked into by the law officers of the Government, and some results may be expected that could not be anticipated from a political inquiry more concerned to find scandal than to correct unwise or illegal methods. As for the purely statistical end of the proposed investigation, it might be well to begin with such studies at home. The Department of Agriculture has elaborate cotton statistics, whose faults were clearly illustrated last autumn. The methods used in compiling such figures plainly call for rectification. Improvement rather than self-investigation is needed. There is more to be done in the department than in the exchanges themselves, or outside them."

Price Fixing

"Fixed Prices a Farm Siren" is the title of an editorial in Western Grain Journal for March 23, which says in part: "From Secretary Wallace down, every Government authority who is informed in regard to the agricultural situation believes reestablishment of a guaranty price on crops would be the worst thing that could happen to the farmer. Agriculture has been all out of kilter as it is because of the war. If a very profitable price were set on wheat, for instance, and guaranteed by the Government, the farmer naturally would plant all the wheat he could, knowing in advance the minimum price he would get. There would be a glut of wheat. And the minute the guaranty was taken off, as it would have to be some time, the farmer would have to go through another year or two of painful readjustment again."

Stock Market Outlook

The Magazine of Wall Street for April 1 says: "While we continue to believe that the long trend of the market is upward, recently there have been some indications that the technical position was temporarily weakened. Such a condition calls for correction. Bull markets usually run in waves extending over several months, and this is no exception; for the rise has continued without serious interruption since last October. While in some cases advances in the prices of stocks have a little more than caught up with the commercial improvement on which these have been based, the extreme possibilities have by no means been discounted...."



## Section 3.

Department of 1. "According to the final ginning returns, which put this year's Agriculture crop at 7,962,530 500-lb. bales, the Department of Agriculture has succeeded in substantially underestimating and overestimating the crop in the same season. This is an unusual achievement that will somewhat impair confidence in the future estimates of that high authority, and next year's crop will be as large or as small as public opinion makes it until the facts are known late in the season when they will have lost their influence as a market factor." (Commerce and Finance, Mar. 29.)

2. New England Homestead for March 25 says in an editorial: " 'The most daring piece of legislation attempted in our day' is the horrified way in which some folk regard Secretary Fall's effort to transfer the Forest Service from the Department of Agriculture to the Interior Department. But it is a little one compared to the \$350,000,000 steal from the taxpayers of the east with which to make Uncle Sam irrigate Nevada, Arizona and the adjacent arid west."

## Section 4.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Mar. 31: Heavy liquidation and lack of support drove grain prices down. Milling and export demand for wheat slow. Chicago May wheat lower at \$1.32 1/2; Chicago May corn lower at 57 3/8¢. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.34; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.33; No. 2 mixed corn 56¢; No. 2 yellow corn 56¢; No. 3 white oats 36¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 42¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.34 1/2; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.18.

Chicago hog prices steady; bulk of sales \$9.90 to \$10.40. All classes of cattle generally steady; medium and good beef steers \$7.25 to \$8.85; butcher cows and heifers \$4.35 to \$8.25; fat lambs \$13.75 to \$16.

Potato markets steady to firm. Maine Bulk Green Mountains steady f.o.b. at \$1.21 to \$1.31 per 100 lbs. Florida Spaulding Rose per bbl. steady to strong in eastern markets at \$10 to \$10.75; Philadelphia weaker at \$8.50 to \$9. New Jersey and Delaware yellow sweet potatoes steady in eastern markets at \$1.65 to \$2.25 per bu. hamper. Florida cabbage in 1 1/2 bu. hampers steady in most cities at \$1.25 to \$1.50.

Hay receipts continue very light generally; prices firm. Better grades not equal to demand at Pittsburgh. Feed markets weak and inactive. Bran and middling offerings heavy for prompt and April shipment. Linseed and cottonseed meal firm, offerings fair, export demand poor. Stocks of most feeds good.

Butter markets steady at close. Buyers have been operating cautiously. With heavier receipts accumulations have developed on some markets. Cheese markets continue on lower basis.

Spot cotton unchanged at 17¢ per lb. New York May futures down 5 points at 17.92¢. (Prepared by Bur. of Mkts. & Crop Est.)

## Industrials and Railroads

Mar. 31: Average closing price 20 industrials 89.05 compared with 75.72 corresponding day 1921; average closing price 20 railroad stocks 80.66 compared with 70.41. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 1.)



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. V, no. 2.

Section 1.

April 3, 1922.

Forest Protection Week Proclamation

President Harding April 1 proclaimed April 22 as a golden anniversary of Arbor Day. Officers of public instruction and of civic and commercial organizations were urged by the President "to unite in thought and action for the preservation of our common heritage by planning such educational and instructive exercises as shall bring before the people the disastrous effects of the present waste by forest fires, and the need of individual and collective efforts to conserve the forests and increase our tree growth for ornament and use."

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Forest Reserve Fund Disapproved

The Senate appropriations subcommittee preparing the agricultural bill April 1 refused to include an item of \$1,000,000 for the purchase of additional land for the Appalachian forest reserve. (Press, Apr. 2.)

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Muscle Shoals

Secretary Weeks transmitted to Congress April 1 an offer from Charles L. Parsons, of Washington, for the development at Muscle Shoals of an industry for the fixation of nitrogen and the use of the Government's nitrate plants for that purpose. Chairman Kahn, of the House Military Affairs Committee, April 1 announced that executive sessions of the committee for consideration of the various proposals to the Government would begin April 10. (Press, Apr. 2.)

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Superintendent Says Center Market Will Cost U.S. Nothing

Center Market, Washington, now in possession of the Government, will be conducted at no expense to the Government, according to an announcement by C. W. Kitchen, Federal superintendent, operating the market for the Department of Agriculture. (Press, Apr. 2.)

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Farm Industry and Business Improve

Acting Director Davis, of the War Finance Corporation, in a statement April 2 noted "marked improvement in the condition of the agricultural industry and a better outlook for business generally" on the basis of April 1 reports from corporation agencies. "Livestock producers and farmers generally," the statement said, "are reported much more confident because of improved market conditions." (Press, Apr. 3.)

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## Section 2.

Agricultural  
Financing

The Federal Reserve Bulletin for March says in an extensive review of the agricultural situation: "In studying the general question of bank advances to agricultural borrowers, it is well worth noting that considerable misunderstanding exists. There is a prevailing opinion that farmers are unable to get accommodation at their banks because the latter are cut off by Federal Reserve banks. In fact, the excuse is frequently given by bankers who seek to curtail credit to farmers that they are obliged to do so because their loans have been called or because they have otherwise been obliged to make payment by their Federal Reserve bank. As has often been explained in the past, this is usually merely a means of evading responsibility for refusing to make a loan, and is frequently nothing more than a means of cloaking refusal in what is supposed to be more acceptable language. ... A similar misconception exists in most minds with respect to 'deposits' which member banks are obliged to keep with the Federal Reserve banks. Some regard this as analogous to the 20 per cent deposit 'balance' required by many commercial banks of their customers. There is no analogy of this sort, but on the contrary the 'balance' kept by a member bank with the Federal Reserve Bank is merely its actual reserve against outstanding liabilities which the law requires it to maintain there for the sake of safety and for the purpose of enabling it to meet demand liabilities when required to do so by its customers."

Agricultural  
Situation

In a statement on general business conditions issued to-day, National City Bank of New York says: "The chief factor in the change of sentiment which has occurred since the first of the year has been the rise in prices of farm products. It came so easily and naturally as to demonstrate that the country had been suffering from excessive pessimism, and that in the natural order of things the economic situation, given reasonable time, would recover its equilibrium. Grain prices in March lost a part of their February gains, but the reasons were obvious and there was no serious loss of confidence. The breaking of the drought in the Southwest and improvement in the outlook for the winter wheat crop was the principal factor in the decline. For several months the country had been hearing that the condition of the Kansas wheat crop was critical and getting worse every day, and then came snow and rain, and the Kansas City Star now says that the prospect is good for as large a crop as Kansas ever has raised. The world situation in wheat is closely balanced and any important news is likely to have more than the usual effect. Australia and Argentina are both exporting wheat freely. New wheat from India will be available within a month, and the harvest is only three months off in this country. As the end of the crop year approaches, opinions about the supplies give way to realities. There have been two positive opinions as to whether or not this country was selling itself short, but the opinion is now general that there will be enough to go around."

American  
Farm Bureau  
Federation  
Motion  
Pictures

After a year of experimentation with motion pictures as a means of education, the American Farm Bureau Federation has signed a contract with Homestead Films, Inc., which provides for an extensive program of production and distribution of Farm Bureau motion pictures. (A.F.B.F. press statement, Mar. 23.)



Civil  
Service

1. An editorial in to-day's Washington Herald says: "The personal problem of the Government continually grows more perplexing. With reclassification legislation pending and department reorganization imminent, it would seem but logical that the President appoint a highly qualified personnel expert to the vacant seat in the Civil Service Commission. Only a man highly versed in the science of handling great masses of workers in the modern way may hope to bring order, efficiency and morale out of the present near chaos of the Government service. ... Much criticism has been leveled at the civil service, but the fact remains that in principle it is right. A return to the odious spoils system, as hinted at by the Attorney General, is totally out of the question. What the civil service needs is some expert tinkering by a man who knows men, who knows how much work they should turn out and who appreciates the need of the personal equation. It is hoped that a man of broad experience and mind will be found to cope with the present situation."
2. The New York Times for April 1 says in an editorial: "Any man who has held public office and sincerely tried to make his office efficient will be likely to feel some sympathy with Attorney General Daugherty's uninvited attack upon what he calls 'the civil service' before the House Appropriations Committee. Of course, he does not mean the civil service. By definition the civil service is that body of Government employees which is not military or naval. He means 'the reform of the civil service'; or if that phrase does not suit him, he can call it 'the examination system.' Its friends call it 'the merit system.' Under this system, whereby the jobs of employees in the civil service are made secure and whereby they too often get those jobs merely because they can pass an examination without showing any other sign of fitness, an eager and industrious official like Mr. Daugherty often finds himself hampered. Government work is slow, and where performed by clerks appointed because they head a list of candidates, is likely to run slower still. Seldom does a civil service applicant seek the job because he has a keen interest in it. It is the security of it that appeals to him; in other words, he is likely to lack ambition. Mr. Daugherty put it rather cleverly when he said that such employees were not as anxious to commence work on the dot as to quit on the dot.

"Officials of the kind we have in mind, such as Mr. Daugherty himself, could carry out their programs and policies much better, no doubt, if they could appoint as their aids men and women personally known to them and sympathetic with them. But this is not the alternative. Before the advent of the merit system officials made their appointments from a list, just as they do now, only it was a list prepared by the political leaders instead of by the Civil Service Commission. There are still plenty of offices outside the grasp of the merit system, and that is the way they are filled even now. Mr. Daugherty recognizes the fact, and says he would rather take the recommendation of a 'self-respecting political committee' than go through the requirements of the civil service rules. Here he talks generalities and bosh. It is the argument used in 1883, when the Civil Service Act was passed, and there never was any truth in it. ... The trouble is inherent, not in either the spoils or merit system, but in the nature of Government employment. As between the two, the merit system offers advantages which the spoils system does not. Under either, the bureau chief meets with certain irritations and harassments, though their nature may differ. The public certainly gets

(Cont'd on page 4)



Civil  
Service

## 2. (Cont'd)

more courtesy and better-intentioned treatment from even a lazy employee under the civil service rules than it does from a swaggering ward-heeler with only four years to hold a fat job and no responsibility to anybody but his own boss in ward, city or State. However that may be, it is regrettable that the Attorney General of the United States could not find some newer arguments. His were current when Benjamin Brewster held the office he now fills."

Indictments  
in Cotton  
Exchange  
Inquiry

Evidence adduced at New York Chief Magistrate William McAdoo's John Doe inquiry into the American Cotton Exchange resulted March 31 in the indictment of the exchange and six of its directors by the Additional Grand Jury on charges of bucketing orders of customers. Two indictments were returned against the group. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 1)

"Eat More  
Meat" Campgain  
for Cleveland

"Inspired by Chicago's successful campaign -- shown in the doubled sausage business without reducing demand for other meats, and in reduced cost of meat foods to consumers -- the Cleveland (Ohio) Meat Council cleared the decks for action and is now in the midst of a concerted effort to boost sausage." (The National Provisioner, Mar. 25.)

Farmers  
Threaten  
Strike in  
Argentina

The agitation of the farmers' rent strike in Argentina assuming critical proportions, and 50,000 farmers raising cereals in the Yampa territory have declared their readiness to abandon their farms until rents are reduced, according to a Buenos Aires dispatch to the press of March. 31.

Food Costs

Food costs at retail continued to decrease in all of the sixteen principal American cities where observations are maintained by the Labor Department during the month ended March 15. According to the monthly report issued April 2 the average of decline under February 15, on the date given amounted to 3 per cent; 1 per cent in Detroit, Philadelphia, Rochester, Salt Lake City and Scranton; 2 per cent in Norfolk and San Francisco, and 1 per cent in Chicago, Cincinnati, Columbus, Little Rock, Louisville, Mobile, Minneapolis, New Orleans and St. Paul. For the year ended March 15, 1922, the department placed the total decrease in retail food prices at between 8 and 16 per cent, according to locality, but estimated that costs still remained from 20 to 40 per cent above 1913 levels. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 3.)

National  
Meat Board

An editorial on the National Meat Board, in The National Provisioner for March 25, says: "The board is not only constructive in its personnel. It has already taken action indicating a foresighted policy, in recommending that a committee urge upon the Secretary of Agriculture and others that the Department of Agriculture receive and use an adequate appropriation for conducting research work in animal proteins. This was adopted on the suggestion of President Wilson that this was the best way to establish the scientific facts regarding the proper and important place of meat in the diet, and thereby furnish a mass of information upon which might be based more popular educational material looking to greater meat consumption."



**Tariff Effect** On account of depression in the Argentine meat industry, the Argentine Government has instructed Thomas A. Le Breton, Ambassador at Washington, to make representations to the United States Government with a view of obtaining suppression of the American tariff on Argentine meat and hides, according to an Associated Press dispatch, April 1.

**Tariff Legislation** Speedy action on permanent tariff legislation which would give protection to agriculture as well as to the manufacturing interests of the East was demanded April 1 by twenty-five Republican senators from the farming districts, who, under the leadership of Senator Gooding, have formed what they term the "tariff bloc." (Press, Apr. 3.)

**Ter Meulen Plan Loses** The referendum taken by the International Chamber of Commerce on the Ter Meulen plan for European financial regeneration, providing that national assets such as customs receipts, railroads and national resources might be mortgaged, failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority on any of the questions placed before the members, it was announced by Chamber of Commerce officials at Paris, April 1. (Press, Apr. 2.)

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### Section 3.

**Department of Agriculture** "Secretary Fall, of the Department of the Interior at Washington, wants the forests of the United States taken out from under the control of the Department of Agriculture and put under his own thumb. Here is apparently why he wants this done: There are about 120,000,000 acres of forest lands owned by the Government. A large part of these lands lie in Alaska. Fall wants to get control of these lands 'so that Alaska can be developed.' ... In other words, the Fall plan is to use Government money to build up profitable enterprises on Government lands, and then turn them over to private corporations who will reap the profit. The Government takes the risk and the corporation gathers in the coin. The agricultural bloc, the National Farmers' Union, the National Grange, the American Farm Bureau Federation and practically every other farmers' organization is against this plan. So is Secretary Wallace of the Department of Agriculture. So are farmers everywhere." (Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman, Mar. 25.)

2. "The United States Department of Agriculture, realizing the tremendous importance of complete agricultural statistical data as to crops and live stock, has taken up the whole question of its crop reporting service with a view of perfecting the service to a point where the data will be as complete as it is humanly possible to make them. Not only will the figures be complete as they relate to data relative to our crops within the United States, but they will be complete relative to facts and influences arising in foreign lands as they effect our crops here. The Southern Ruralist applauds this new move because we have felt for a long time the need of more accurate data than have been available, especially with reference to cotton." (Southern Ruralist, Apr. 1.)



## Section 4.

## MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

Dr. F. Torrance, of Ottawa, Veterinary Director General of the Canadian Department of Agriculture, and Col. C. H. Q. Sharman, also of the Ottawa Department of Agriculture, will be visitors of Dr. J. R. Mohler, Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry, April 4 and 5.

## Section 5.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 1: Unfavorable crop news and increased duty stimulated wheat demand, but sentiment and news were of a mixed character and Chicago May wheat closed lower at  $\$1.31\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chicago May corn higher at  $57\frac{3}{4}$ . Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat  $\$1.33$ ; No. 2 hard winter wheat  $\$1.33$ ; No. 2 mixed corn  $56\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 3 white oats  $36\frac{1}{2}$ . Average farm prices: No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota  $\$1.32$ ; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas  $\$1.15$ ; No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa 43.

Chicago hog prices steady, bulk of sales  $\$8.90$  to  $\$10.40$ . Cattle, sheep and lamb prices practically unchanged. Medium and good beef steers  $\$7.25$  to  $\$8.85$ ; butcher cows and heifers  $\$4.35$  to  $\$8.25$ . Fat lambs  $\$13.75$  to  $\$16.00$ .

Butter markets steady. Maine Green Mountains in bulk steady, f.o.b. shipping points at  $\$1.21$  to  $\$1.31$  per 100 lbs. Florida Spaulding Rose No. 1 in double head barrels  $\$10.00$  to  $\$10.50$  in New York and Pittsburgh. Strawberry markets steady. South Carolina lettuce  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bushels hampers  $\$4.00$  to  $\$4.25$  in New York City.

Spot cotton down 1 point closing at  $16.99\frac{1}{2}$  per lb. New York May futures up 1 point at  $17.93\frac{1}{2}$ .

Grain markets unsettled during the week with prices easily influenced. Cash demand fair. Depressing influences were large estimate for Russian crop and weak foreign markets.

Chicago hog prices ranged from  $10\frac{1}{2}$  lower to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  higher. Beef steers and butcher cows and heifers up 10 to  $25\frac{1}{2}$ . Wholesale fresh meat prices about unchanged. Eastern potato markets steady; Chicago slightly weaker. Cabbage markets steady for Texas stock; weak for Florida stock. Celery prices advanced sharply. Onion markets held recent gains. Strawberry markets steady; demand moderate.

Hay prices continue light generally at firm prices. Urgent demand at Chicago for Timothy and limited quantity of Prairie. Feed markets weak and inactive. Stocks of most feeds good.

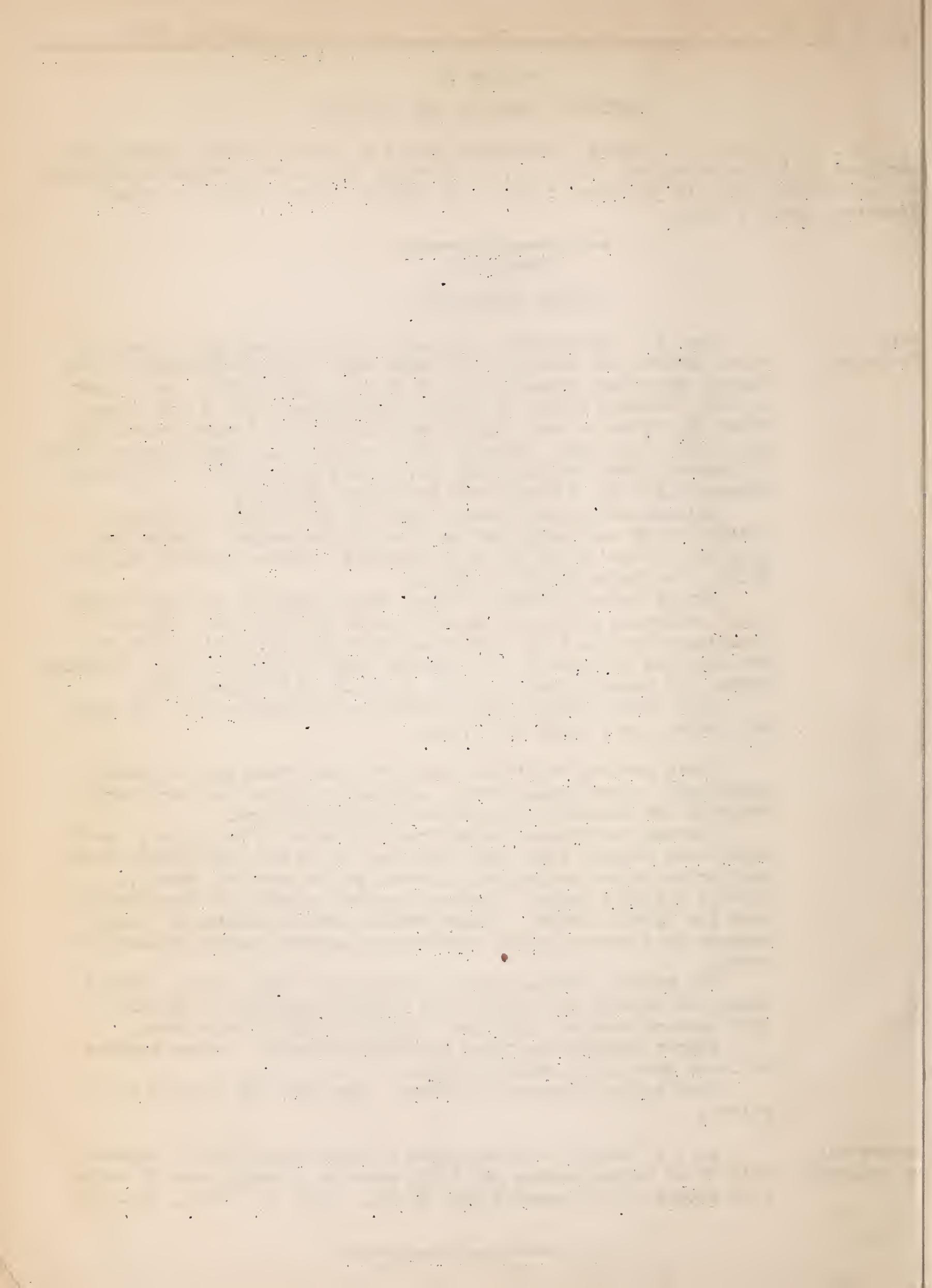
Butter markets unsettled and barely steady. Cheese markets on lower basis with trading light.

Spot cotton advanced 10 points. New York May futures up 26 points.

## Industrials

and Railroads

Apr. 1: Average closing price 20 industrials  $89.08$  compared with  $75.27$  corresponding day 1921; average closing price 20 railroad stocks  $80.68$  compared with  $70.18$ . (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 3.)



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## DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. V, no. 3.

Section 1.

April 4, 1922.

Agricultural Appropriation Bill

The Agricultural Appropriation bill, carrying a total of \$35,808,000, but without the \$360,000 item for free seeds, was reported April 3, Senator Warren, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announcing he would call it up today. (Press, Apr. 4.)

Farmer Financing Legislation

Establishment of a national agricultural credit corporation, Government owned and controlled, with a capital stock of \$500,000,000, to provide long-term credits for farmers, is provided for in a bill introduced in the Senate, April 3 by Senator Simmons. The proposed new organization would be a corporation, with the Secretary of Agriculture and four other persons appointed by the President, with the sanction of the Senate, as directors. The life of the corporation would be fifty years. (Press, Apr. 4.)

Economic and Business Probe

An investigation of existing business and economic conditions by a congressional joint committee, with a view to recommending legislation defining the rights and limitations of cooperative trade organizations, would be ordered under a resolution proposed in the Senate April 3 by Senator Edge. A similar resolution was introduced in the House by Representative McArthur. The chief object, Senator Edge said in submitting his resolution, was that commerce and industry may know to what extent it may cooperate without violating the laws governing illegal combinations, as interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States. The committee proposed by the resolution would be given until December 4 to study the questions before reporting to Congress as to the scope of the inquiry it deems necessary. (Press, Apr. 4.)

Tariff Legislation

"The Perfect Tariff" is the title of an editorial in The New York Times to-day which says: "After a long incubation the permanent tariff bill is almost hatched. ... The farmers and manufacturers are to be protected; but won't the farmer be more deeply bled on the things he has to buy than he can bleed on what he has to sell to the rest of us, the great unregarded mass of consumers, phlebotomized alike by manufacturer and farmer? ... Here is the home market again impregnably walled against 'abroad.' Field sells to workshop, workshop to field. How is 'abroad' to buy of us, to pay its debts to us? What becomes of foreign trade? Are selling and buying no relations? Are manufacturing and agriculture so to be curtailed that there will be no surplus foods or goods?"



## Section 2.

Agricultural  
Bloc Aids City

The agricultural bloc in Congress is working for the city resident as well as for the farmer, Senator Capper declares in an article in the official organ of the National Association of Credit Men, made public April 2. "The farm bloc," Senator Capper says, "is giving its support to the Capper-French 'truth-in-fabrics' bill to compel all makers of clothing to brand their goods so that the buyer will know the amount of pure wool and the amount of shoddy in each garment. This is of more importance to the man in the city than to the man who sells the wool. The farm bloc is trying to evolve a credit plan which will be of speedy and immense value to the entire industry. The farm bloc is committed to the development of the Muscle Shoals project to give farmers an abundance of fertilizer. The fertilizer trust has a very real and menacing existence. A powerful competitor to the trust is needed. This, also, is of direct concern to the city dweller who must be supplied with food by the citizen who makes the soil productive by liberal use of nitrates."

Agricultural  
Situation

"On the whole there seems to be a good basis for believing that agriculture in all branches will have a better market for the next crop than for the last one. The farmer's costs are declining, and we believe that the necessary readjustments to bring industry into balance require that they shall continue to decline. It is in the interest of all business that the farmers, the most numerous class in the country, shall have a fair show in the field. With agricultural production increasing in Europe the farmer can not expect the prices of his products to go back to the high levels due to the war, and if he has made mistakes of judgment by buying property at high prices he has lots of company among people who are not farmers, but he has a right to expect that one way or another, his products shall have a purchasing power in relation to other commodities and services equal to that of before the war. We do not think that much can be done by means of legislation to secure this to him, but are positive in our opinion that economic law will bring it to him, and we counsel all other groups to cheerfully accord it to him as rightfully due." (N.Y. National City Bank Statement, Apr. 3.)

Agriculture  
in Europe

The New York National City Bank, in a press statement April 3, quotes a letter from Prof. A. E. Taylor, of Leland Stanford University, in which he expresses the opinion that there is undue optimism in the belief that "Europe outside of Russia will be back in 1922 almost to normal production." Professor Taylor's letter says in part: "I surveyed agricultural and nutritional conditions in Europe in 1920-1921 for the American Relief Administration, so I am writing from personal experience, fortified by regular Governmental reports from each country in Europe. Agriculture can not be back to the normal in 1922, for a number of reasons. The count of animals is gradually being restored but lack of purchasing power prevents Europe from importing a volume of feeding stuffs necessary to bring the productivity of each animal, in edible products, up to the prewar level. The average milch cow and the average slaughtered steer and pig in Europe yields much less in weighed products than before the war and this will not be restored in 1922. Sugar



production will not be restored in 1922. The production of bread grains will be restored in 1922, barring crop failure. The production of fruits and vegetables will probably be normal, barring crop failure. Potatoes, rice and maize will be normal, barring crop failure. But if you will take the calories produced in 1921, contrast them with 1920 and 1919 and analyze the position, you will find your prediction for 1922 unduly optimistic. Nearly every one overlooks one reason for Europe's ability to limit her imports. She mills her bread grains differently than before the war. ... The purchasing power of wheat, which was very high in Europe last year, is falling even more rapidly than the purchasing power of wheat in this country is rising."

#### Agriculture in New Mexico

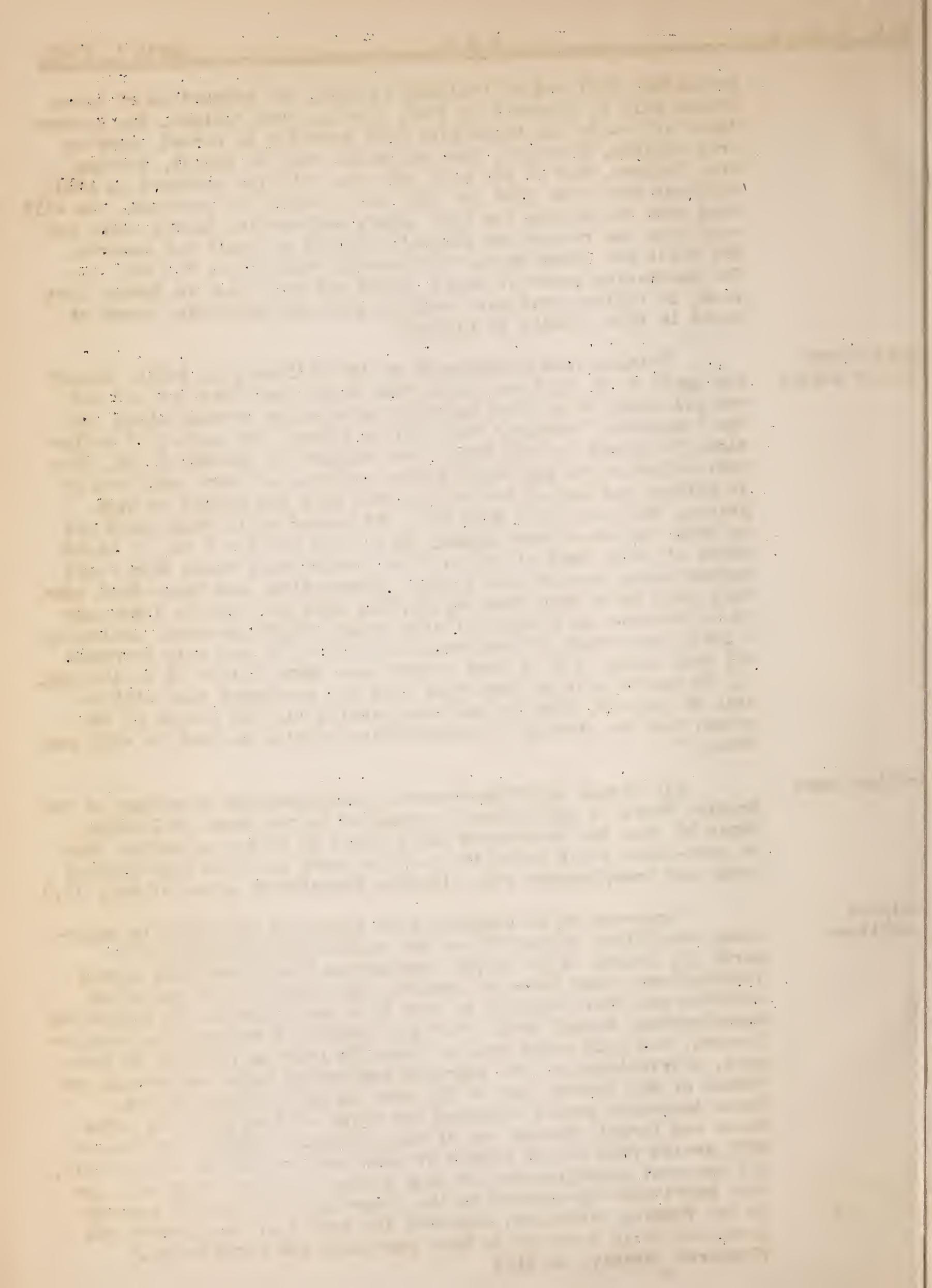
Writing from Albuquerque to the Philadelphia Public Ledger for April 1, E. G. Lowry says: "New Mexico had just got set and was all ready to go when suddenly and without warning along came the 'consumers' strike,' the fall in prices, the period of deflation. The people of the State were caught all spraddled out. They were called on to pay their debts, and some of them could not do it without selling at low prices what they had bought at high prices. They were in a deep hole. It looked as if they would all go broke together last autumn. They could not see a ray of light ahead of them. Just at the blackest period they found they could borrow money from the War Finance Corporation, and since that time they have taken more than \$6,000,000. That is a fairly large sum to be borrowed in a State of only about 400,000 persons, including a large percentage of Mexicans. New Mexico has not only borrowed all this money, but it must borrow some more before it is through. ... It may be said at once that they are confident they will be able to pay out. Some of the more hopeful fix the period at two years; but the average of conservative opinion is that it will take three."

#### British Sugar

Sir Arthur Griffith-Boscawen, parliamentary secretary to the British Board of Agriculture, announced in the House of Commons March 30 that the Government had decided to charge no excise duty on home-grown sugar while the beet industry is in an experimental stage and unemployment rife. (London dispatch to press of Mar. 31.)

#### Business conditions

"Improvement in business with increased stability in underlying conditions characterized the period from February 16 to March 15. Prices of the major commodities have shown only normal fluctuations. Many lines of industry give evidence of increased activity and there appears to have been some decrease in industrial unemployment. Retail trade over the counter is reported as unsatisfactory, but mail order houses generally show an increase in business, attributable to the improved purchasing power and mental attitude of the farmer, due to the rise in agricultural prices. These increased prices enhanced the value of farm products after wheat had largely passed out of the producers' hands, but farmers will profit from higher prices of corn and live stock. Furthermore, the apparent establishment of crop values on levels that will insure profitable operations in the future has brought new courage to the farming districts, improved the credit of the farmers and increased their tendency to make purchases and commitments." (Commerce Monthly, April.)



## Civil Service

"Psychology and Civil Service" is the title of an editorial in The Washington Star for April 2, which says: "The President is being urged to select 'a real personnel expert from one of the larger business corporations of the country to fill the vacant chair in the Civil Service Commission.' ... It seems to fair observers that the Civil Service Commission has done very well during its career even though it has never had the advantage of a commissioner trained up as a psychologist. It has developed a system of selection of employees which, if not based on 'psychology,' is at least based on human experience in dealing with human beings. It is a system which embodies ages of experience with human nature. In results it has brought together for the Government as efficient a body of work-people as could probably be got together, considering certain conditions, and those conditions are that Government pay is low, promotion painfully slow and the 'future' of employees almost without hope. The Government seems to hold out no inducement, no reward, for extraordinary endeavor and unusual efficiency. ... The Civil Service Commission can not be blamed for this system. It brings into the Government service young, apt and well-schooled persons. As a class these are mightily more efficient than those brought into the Government service before the enactment of the Civil Service Law and when spoils and political favoritism were the ways to Government employment."

## Corn Acreage

"Broader Aspects of Corn Acreage Reduction" is the title of an editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for March 31, which says in part: "The fact that corn is still selling for 20 cents a bushel less than cost of production, combined with the fact that farmers now hold 30 per cent more corn than they usually hold at this time of year, demonstrates the need for corn acreage reduction. We trust that corn belt farmers will increase their oat and clover acreage at the expense of corn so that with average weather they will have their normal amount of corn on hand in December of 1922. ... What about the future demand for corn, the demand from 1923 to 1930? The sentimentalists and the grain trade talk vaguely and impressively of the world-wide food shortage, of starving Russia, China and Armenia. It is the American farmers' duty and opportunity to feed the world, so they say. ... It seems to us that it is about time for the farmers of the United States to face the fact that from now on the home market is the market to produce for. To the extent that we produce a surplus for an European market we are in danger of selling our stuff for less than cost of production. Bankers who finance the export trade are not, and will not be, keen about advancing Europe funds to buy here unless she can buy at a great bargain. We are now started on a year or two of temporary prosperity during which many of us will be glad to forget our troubles for the time being. It still behooves us, however, to work on this problem of corn and pork production. To what extent will it be wise for us to continue to produce a surplus for an European market? Can our big bankers, our packers, our grain exporters, give us a well-considered opinion?"

## Cotton Men to Meet in May

The press of April 3 announces that Secretary Wallace and Sir Auckland Geddes, British Ambassador, will be among the speakers at the annual convention of the American Cotton Manufacturers Association, meeting in Washington May 26 and 27.



Farm Wages in  
South Jersey

Recommendations made in the new wage schedule of the Gloucester Co., N.J., Board of Agriculture include a rate of \$25 a month and board for single farm hands, and from \$10 to \$12 a week, with house rent free, for married men. (Phila. Ledger, Mar. 31)

U. S. Grain...  
Growers, Inc.

"The discord that came to a head during the recent annual meeting of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., was not a surprise to those who have followed the organization's movements since it was launched about a year ago. The discontent did not develop at the meeting, but rather burst into prominence there, after having existed in a less apparent form since the conference was held to ratify the plan submitted by the Committee of 17. The situation as it exists to-day should furnish an object lesson to farmers. It does not show that farmers are incompetent of conducting their own business, as some might contend, but that the plan of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., is not and can never be successful in reorganizing grain marketing machinery. It shows, moreover, that the plan of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., is unwieldy, and that it offers opportunity for the intervention of personal and factional strife that would preclude the possibility of successful functioning in competition with well-established business institutions having always the desire to become more efficient and more economical. The cost of the work up to the time is staggering. The cash exhibit submitted by Mr. Eckhardt showed that on March 21 net cash expenditures were \$607,486; while known unpaid items then totaled more than \$78,000. Surely, a scheme that has cost \$685,000 without having yet made itself ready to function in the actual handling of grain is an expensive pet. The farmers of the United States who have furnished this vast amount of money will scan more carefully the next agitators' scheme that is presented to them as a bait to entice their bank accounts into the agitators' hands." (Grain Dealers Journal, Mar. 25.)

## Price Fixing

Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman for March 25 says in an editorial on "Price Guarantees": "The bill is of the same general type as that passed some years ago to keep the silver mines working, and under which the Government agreed to pay a minimum of \$1 an ounce for silver regardless of the world's supply or demand. It also comes in the same class with the present ship subsidy bill, in which it is proposed that the Government shall pay part of the cost of operating American merchant ships in order that they may meet foreign competition. Charles S. Barrett's (of National Farmers' Union) idea is that farmers were brought to their present plight through governmental paternalism under war conditions, and he believes that the Government should bring back prosperity by the same kind of paternalism under peace conditions. Do we want paternalism in Government, or merely a first-class chance to work out our own salvation? Did we get enough of price guarantees during the war? How much further might paternalism be carried for other classes of people besides farmers?"

## Wool Prices

The Commercial Bulletin for April 1 said: "There is a little more buying, chiefly in a speculative way in wool, as the week closes, but at prices showing some slight decrease from those of a week ago. On the whole, the market still is quiet."



Section 3.  
MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

The County Home Demonstration agents of Maryland will hold their annual meeting in Washington, April 5, 6 and 7, headquarters being at the Grace Dodge Hotel.

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Section 4.  
MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 3: Chicago wheat prices advanced on strength in Liverpool, but trade quieted down later. Chicago May wheat closed higher at \$1.33 1/4; Chicago May corn higher at 58 3/8¢. Visible supply wheat 35,897,000 bushels, a decrease of 1,205,000 bushels for week. Visible supply corn 46,889,000 bushels, a decrease of 2,708,000 bushels for week. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.35; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.34; No. 2 mixed corn 57¢; No. 3 white oats 36¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 43 1/2¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.32 1/8; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.18.

Chicago hog prices steady, bulk of sales \$9.90 to \$10.40. Beef steers steady to strong, medium and good grades \$7.25 to \$8.85; butcher cows and heifers \$4.35 to \$8.25. Fat lambs strong to 25¢ higher at \$13.25 to \$16.25.

Potato markets nearly steady. Florida Spaulding Rose No. 1 in double head barrels \$8 to \$10 in Eastern markets. Florida strawberries steady in leading markets at 50¢ to 60¢. Louisiana Klondikes 24-pint crates \$4.25 to \$4.50 in Chicago. Texas Bermuda onions standard crates in leading markets \$5 to \$6.

Hay receipts; demand while limited to local needs is urgent for the few cars of good hay available. Central western markets up \$1. Feed markets weak. Hominy feed production continues heavy. Export demand negligible.

Butter markets unsettled. Demand good for medium and under-grades. Cheese markets weak; price tendency downward. Business dull.

Spot cotton down 4 points closing at 16.95¢ per lb. New York May futures down 8 points at 17.85¢. (Prepared by Bur. of Mkt. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and  
Railroads

Apr. 3: Average closing price 20 industrials 90.05 as compared with 75.16 corresponding day 1921; average closing price 20 railroad stocks 81.26 as compared with 70.05. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 4.)

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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 4.

Section 1.

April 5, 1922.

Would Build  
Wilson Dam

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry was called upon yesterday by Chairman Norris to vote to-day on a motion to amend the army appropriation bill when it is acted upon in the Senate in a way that will provide funds for army engineers to resume work on the Wilson dam at Muscle Shoals, Ala., this summer. Senator Harrels moved in the committee meetings yesterday to provide \$7,300,000 to finance work for one year, beginning July 1, by amending the army bill. The committee also decided to begin hearings Monday on the proposals of Henry Ford, the Alabama Power Company; Frederick E. Engstrum and Charles L. Parsons for Muscle Shoals development. Senator Norris told the agriculture members yesterday that he expected to present a bill for their consideration in connection with the offers already made. The senator said he proposed to have the Government complete the Muscle Shoals properties and operate them under a Government owned and controlled corporation. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 5.)

Muscle Shoals

Chairman Kahn April 4 asked members of the House Military Affairs Committee to begin individually a careful analysis of the four proposals for the lease of the Muscle Shoals project before they undertook to determine the plan for proceeding on April 10, when executive sessions will begin. (Press, Apr. 5.)

Waterway Treaty  
Likely

Negotiations of a treaty between the United States and Great Britain with regard to the St. Lawrence River waterway plan was indicated as probable April 4 at the White House. It was said an agreement whereby the waterway project could be completed was under close study by the administration and that the belief prevailed a treaty would have to precede any working agreement. (Press, Apr. 5.)

Canadian Assails  
Tariff Plans

"What would the Americans do if the Ottawa Government were to prevent them from getting their supplies from the paper mills in Canada?" asks Premier Taschereau of Quebec Province, just back from a visit to various New England cities. In an interview which is arousing much comment in Canada he claims "that reprisals should not be provoked by the United States as Canada could prevent the export of wood cut on private lands." The Quebec Prime Minister considers "the American attitude on the tariff invites retaliation in kind." (Ottawa dispatch to N.Y. Times, Apr. 5.)



## Section 2.

Agricultural  
Financing

The War Finance Corporation announces that from March 30, to April 1, 1922, inclusive, it approved 109 advances, aggregating \$2,504,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes in 22 States. During the week ending April 1, 1922, the corporation approved a total of 185 advances, aggregating \$4,704,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes. (W.F.C. press statement, Apr. 3.)

Agriculture  
and Business

In its review of the business situation, The Economist for April 1 says: "Agricultural products take a less prominent place in the estimate of business conditions than heretofore. The recent rise in wheat was a rescue and gave a highly beneficial impulse to the agricultural regions, while also stimulating trade elsewhere. The reaction has not been sufficient to neutralize this and the outlook is considered fairly satisfactory. The heavy rains have caused some anxiety as to winter wheat but the experience of farmers is that plenty of moisture, even if too plenty at times, is a thing to be welcomed."

Australian Land  
Settlement

"A Million Farms for a Million Farmers" is the title of an article by Sir Joseph Carruthers, former Premier of New South Wales, in The Trans-Pacific for March, which outlines the statesman's plan for populating the island-continent. The article says in part: "Australia is a continent with 1,903,000,000 acres of land, of which less than 1 per cent is cultivated, while barely 10 per cent of it is carrying what we may term 'settlement'. Relatively speaking, of all the so-called habitable countries in the world, Australia has the scantiest population and the largest area of undeveloped lands. The average area of the farm holding -- alienated land -- in Australia is 650 acres. There is sufficient land to provide an average of 1,740 acres for 1,000,000 new settlers on an area that is at present idle and unpeopled. There are in Australia 850,000,000 acres of absolutely unoccupied land under no form whatever of lease, license, or other tenancy. ... While admitting that America has a greater extent of good agricultural land, and that Australia can not expect to have as many farms and farmers, it is probably a fair statement to say that the Commonwealth can find one acre of farm or mixed grazing land to every three acres of similar land in the United States. Let me put it another way. The United States with 204,000,000 acres of cultivated land has 12,400,000 persons occupied in its agriculture. Can Australia find 100,000,000 acres of cultivable land, or one-third of that of the United States? ... If America can maintain 12,400,000 people actually engaged in agriculture -- of whom probably one-half are interested as owners and the other half as hired workers -- and can do this on 879,000,000 acres of cultivated and grass lands, is it not reasonable to believe that Australia may at least aim at placing additional men on the land so as to obtain 1,000,000 farm owners, with a fair quota of laborers, either employed or members of their own families? ... I suggest that a fund of at least 30,000,000 pounds be determined on, and that this fund be raised from time to time as required by Australia and Great Britain, in equal proportions, with joint backing. The administration thereof should be entrusted to a joint and representative body, which should supervise execution of all the details of the scheme, and should have power to make all necessary contracts and arrangements with states or with either of the two greater Governments concerned."



Business  
Situation

A Chicago dispatch to The Philadelphia Public Ledger to-day makes the following statement on business conditions: "J. Ogden Armour says -- 'This is the moment of a new-born opportunity, which consists of favorable conditions actual and arrived. Not since the close of hostilities have economic circumstances held out so much of hopeful evidence. The deadlock in business has been broken. Opportunity is only for him who acts, however. And its richest reward is only for him who acts first.' Montgomery Ward & Co.'s March returns indicate substantially better than preferred dividend requirements, and April indications are even better. President Merselles says -- 'We worry less about volume than number of orders, our gain in which is most encouraging. Money average has declined because of lower prices and greater discrimination of buyers. Our catalogue almost ignores things that appeal to the affluent. We have had splendid response from our offer to sell tillage tools at cost. The farmer can not go broke. He will not regain his full normal purchasing power this year, but, with fair to good crops, he should next year.' Herbert Hoover declares that farmers will pitch in and do their best this spring. All business men are greatly interested in his assertion that beyond the limit of individual initiative there must be collective initiative to make progress as a Nation, and that if absolutely necessary combinations are violations of the laws against restraint of trade the laws should be correspondingly amended."

Foreign  
Trade

1. "Our Agricultural Imports" is the title of an editorial in Wall Street Journal for April 3, which says in part: "If we go through the list of imports, it will be found that with the exception of flaxseed, sugar, hides and wool, the imports of no product are in any way comparable with our production, rice, the largest, being only 8.6 per cent of the domestic production. With the exception of sugar, there seems little or no prospect of any of the others being produced in sufficient quantity to satisfy the domestic demand. There should be nothing on the import side to worry producers. But when we turn to the producing side, it will be seen that we are at or near the crest of our producing capacity, while population is rapidly increasing. This is the fact that gives point to import figures of farm products. An intelligent tariff policy should not overlook this fact, lest it make living costs greater while doing no service to the producer."
2. The Baltimore Sun to-day says in an editorial on Lloyd George's recent speech on the Genoa conference: "Two points in his speech stand out -- the test which he proposes whereby the nature of Soviet Russia's representation at the conference shall be determined, and the evidence of a larger understanding on Mr. George's part of Europe's economic problem. If Russia assents to all the conditions he lays down, there will be no good reason why she should be excluded from the conference and hardly any reason why all foreign powers should not grant her full recognition. Much depends upon what guarantees the Soviet crowd can give that the promises they make or the agreements they enter into will be lived up to. As to the economic situation, it is summed up in Lloyd George's phrase: 'The world is one trade unit.' If the implications of that thought can be got into the heads of Europe's statesmen -- and those of the United States -- progress will be possible."



Purchasing  
Power of  
Farm Products

Commercial West for April 1 quotes Fred J. Hall as saying in The Wire Message: "It is not the price that the farmer gets for his products that is the real cause of his unfortunate condition, but the price he has to pay for what he needs. He is selling on a deflated basis, and paying for transportation and for nearly every essential commodity, except food, on an inflated basis. ... It is an axiom of economics that it is possible to have general prosperity on a basis of high prices as well as on a basis of low prices, provided there is a just parity of prices, or in other words, an economic balance. General prosperity depends upon a free and full exchange of services and products, and this can not take place when certain groups demand two or three times more for their services and products than they are willing to pay other groups for a just equivalent. In 1914 a farmer could buy a wagon for the value of about 200 bushels of corn. To-day he must pay for the same wagon the value of about 650 bushels. He will, therefore, use his old wagon as long as it can be made to hold together. This merely illustrates a condition which applies to innumerable other products and which affect the purchasing power of the entire nation, particularly those, the value of whose products and services have been thoroughly liquidated."

Reforestation  
in Europe  
Aided  
by Pack

A dispatch from Paris to the New York Times to-day states that 700 pounds of fir seeds for the reforestation of French battle-fields are to be given to the French Government by Charles Lathrop Pack, president of the American Forestry Association. This amount of seed is considered sufficient to plant 30,000 acres of forest land. Mr. Pack, it was announced, is also presenting to England 300 pounds of fir seed to assist in replacing the 60 per cent of the forests of the United Kingdom cut down during the war.

Tariff  
Legislation

"Characteristic Tariff Action" is the title of an editorial in The Journal of Commerce for April 4, which says in part: "In reaching a decision to tax imported vegetable oils if used in the manufacture of edible products some three or four cents a pound, but to admit them free when used for soaps, the Senate Finance Committee has taken characteristic tariff action. The controversy has been an open one for a long time past and the result is the outcome of a very bitter struggle between the farm bloc and the producers of soap, in which both sides are now allowed nominally to win, while the public loses. The situation is this: For a good while the 'edible products' made of imported vegetable oils have been growing in popularity. Cocoanut oil has been made into a very acceptable form of 'nut butter,' which has gained wide use as a substitute for dairy butter, and other forms of these oils have become a desirable and cheap element in the dietary of the public. Of course, such a state of things is anathema to those 'poor farmers' who want to keep dairy butter at high levels and to avoid the competition of any food products that might save the rank and file of the community anything. They are therefore finally placated by being given a three or four cent duty on the imported oils, which, of course, means an advance of probably several times that amount in the final retail cost of nut butter and other similar products. Thus the organized dairy interests, parading as the friends of the farmer, are again enabled to 'put over' some extreme protection, just as they did when they secured the adoption of the present oleomargarine laws with the provisions for the non-use of coloring matter. ... "



Trading  
Legislation

An editorial on the Farm Products Trading Rules Act, in The Price Current-Grain Reporter for March 29, says: "The absurdity of a bill offered in the Congress by Representative Summers of Washington and Senator McNary of Oregon, which would give the Secretary of Agriculture authority to make all trading and arbitration rules governing handlers of agricultural products, does not seem to appeal to those gentlemen who appear to have forgotten what they are in Washington for. The law has already made the 'rules' for transacting business. Trade organizations by their own rules are simply trying to facilitate trade and to untangle the hopeless maze created by too many law makers. Now these gentlemen, not content with making laws, want to mess their work by making trade rules and customs also. Will the persistent officiousness of law-makers never cease and let men alone in their lawful transactions?"

## Farm Products

Apr. 4: Chicago wheat market unsettled; Chicago May wheat lower at \$1.32 1/4; Chicago May corn unchanged at 58 3/8¢. Wheat export demand slow. Corn bug area in Oklahoma increasing. Fair export demand for corn at seaboard. Closing prices at Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.34; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.33; No. 2 mixed corn 57¢; No. 2 yellow 58¢; No. 3 white oats 36¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 43 1/2¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.32 3/4. to \$10.50.

Chicago hog prices up 10¢, bulk of sales \$10.05. Beef cattle active and steady on most classes. Medium and good beef steers \$7.25 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers \$4.35 to \$8.25. Fat lambs strong to 25¢ higher at \$13.25 to \$16.50.

Potato markets slightly weakened. Florida Spaulding Rose No. 1 \$8.00 to \$10.00 per barrel in Eastern cities. Total carlot shipments of potatoes during the week ending April 1 - 4, 128 old potatoes; 168 new potatoes, as compared with 4,367 cars old and 68 cars new the preceding week. Celery markets strong. Texas Bermuda onions in standard crates \$5.00 to \$6.00 in Eastern cities. Florida strawberries weaker at 40 to 60¢ per quart in Eastern cities.

Spot cotton up 6 points at 17.01¢ per lb. New York May futures up 15 points at 18¢. (Prepared by Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and  
Railroads

Apr. 4: Average closing price 20 industrials 89.30 compared with 76.16 corresponding day 1921; average closing price 20 railroad stocks 60.86 compared with 70.46. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 5.)

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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. V, no. 5.

Section 1.

April 6, 1932.

President Harding  
Will Not Dictate  
on Muscle Shoals

branch of the Government. Mr. Kahn later announced he would not press his proposal for creation of a commission composed of representatives of the Treasury, War and Agriculture departments to decide final disposition of the projects. (Press, Apr. 6.)

Funds Voted  
for Wilson Dam

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry April 5 voted in favor of an appropriation of \$7,500,000 for continuance of construction of the Wilson dam, a part of the Muscle Shoals project. (Press, Apr. 6.)

Cotton Crop  
Estimate by  
Census Bureau  
Asked

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry April 5 ordered a favorable report on the Harris bill providing for the issuance of cotton crop estimates by the Bureau of the Census in conjunction with its reports on cotton ginned. (Press, Apr. 6.)

Federal Crop  
Insurance

Representative Sinclair April 5 introduced a bill in the House proposing the appointment of a joint commission to investigate the expediency of creating a Government crop insurance system. (Press, Apr. 6.)

Tariff Legislation

The Senate Finance Committee April 5 completed the work of rewriting the rates in the permanent tariff bill and began consideration of the technical and administrative features. The valuation feature is yet to be determined. (Press, Apr. 6.)

International  
Financing

A dispatch from London to the Philadelphia Public Ledger to-day says in part: "First-hand information relative to the formation of an international corporation to restore European trade -- the idea for which originated at Cannes -- will be given the United States Government and American business circles by J. Grant Forbes, who sailed to-day on the Homeric. He acted as an unofficial observer at the request of European financiers at the meeting at which plans for the international corporation were perfected."



## Section 2.

Cold Storage  
Legislation

"The Norris bill last year was deemed impracticable by the House, and it contains certain provisions which would make its operation extremely troublesome to the packing industry. Packers have not objected to the enactment of a Federal cold storage bill. But they suggest that certain provisions of the Norris bill are unnecessary, and would make operation thereunder an expensive proposition. This is especially true in view of the fact that meats in cure would be classed as subject to this bill, making it necessary to mark them accordingly. Such a law would practically paralyze the cured meat trade, since operation under it would be almost prohibitive. The Frelinghuysen bill takes cognizance of this condition, and at the same time affords protection to the consumer."

(National Provisioner, Apr. 1.)

## Cotton

"The Cotton Shipper and the Banker" is the subject of an address, delivered by John Bolinger, vice president of the National Shawmut Bank of Boston, before the Texas Cotton Association, and published in The Economic World for April 1. He says in part: "It is generally admitted that fully 75 per cent of the cotton merchants have had a very successful season. While the others may not have been so fortunate, the fact that there have been few failures among them would indicate that the cotton merchants as a whole did very well last season. The majority of cotton merchants have shown excellent balance sheets. Yet they have readily appreciated the position of the banker, who, in the face of sharp deflation, was compelled to adopt a conservative policy in the matter of credit lines. This policy of reduced loans carried no reflection, of course, upon the credit position of any community. It was simply an attempt at getting back to a basis of supply and demand, as, naturally, it did not require as much money to finance cotton at 13 cents as it did with cotton selling at 35 cents. ... Even the most cautious observers of conditions in the cotton market at the present time, however, can see a definite swing toward recovery of business. The steady improvement in the position of the grain farmers is quite sure to be passed on to the cotton grower through expanded buying power. The advance in foreign exchanges is an encouraging sign. The results of the Washington Conference, while their effect has been to some extent discounted, are certain to be beneficial in their bearing on future business. The strong financial position of our banking system, shown by increased reserves and the lowering of rediscount rates, assures ample credit facilities. There are excellent reasons for expecting an increasing world demand for raw and manufactured goods. The shortage in the world's cotton production last year has cut down the large surplus carry-over which promised to be a disturbing factor in the price situation. The position of the entire American cotton industry at the present time is fundamentally sound because of the thoroughness of liquidation and the extent of unfilled market demands. The partial recovery in prices is encouraging, and it is not over-optimistic to anticipate that the improvement will become firmly established if cotton prices would but hold steady for a short time. ... The development of the policy of reducing cotton acreage has caused the great cotton-consuming countries to push programs for creating new sources of raw staple. ... "



**Farm Machinery Costs** An editorial in The Breeder's Gazette for March 30 says: "Due to the abridged but increasing buying power of farmers, and their fixed and enforced resolution to practice economies, the demand for agricultural machinery and implements has been and remains at a low ebb. Farmers as a whole are not indulging in a deliberate, organized buyers' strike, and as a whole they do not believe that the manufacturers are profiteers. Those who know the facts know that American farming machinery is the best in the world, and that it costs more money to produce it than is spent elsewhere to make corresponding units; but many of them feel compelled to postpone making purchases if they can carry on without making them. Meantime, the manufacturers must somehow hold on or quit. Further price reductions, in the face of undeflated labor costs and high freight rates, can not fairly be expected. We do not suggest or imply that farmers should buy machinery or anything else if a sound economy would warrant their deferring its purchase; we are not making a plea for a charitable consideration of the plight of manufacturers. We merely point out that it costs money -- and it means the loss of money by farmers and everybody else -- for any one large productive and consuming class to practice radical economies. Nevertheless, thousands of farmers will buy implements and machinery this year, because they must. Moreover, they know that many a new purchase will pay for itself during the first year of its use. Farmers, having been the first to be deflated, will be the first to begin buying."

**Milk Marketing in New York** "The fight between the 'poolers' and the 'non-poolers' in the Dairymen's League, Inc., begun on April 1, when the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, Inc., became exclusive sales agents for the League members, has not cut New York City's milk supply, it was said April 4, except perhaps to diminish the quantity of Grade A milk received. Virtually all of Grade A milk producers are in the pooling plan, it was stated. It was said at the office of the cooperative association that of the 80,000 active dairymen who are members of the League, 70,000 have signed up under the pooling plan and that new members are being received at the rate of 400 a day." (N.Y. Times, Apr. 5.)

**National Forest Policy** "Government Aid for Forests" is the title of an editorial in New England Homestead for April 1, which says: "What does The Homestead think of the bills for Federal aid to forestry? In both the Capper and the Snell bills, the remedy proposed seems to be worse than the present lack of wisdom and plan in forestry. Each State should work out this problem for itself, not try to farm out the job to Uncle Sam. Let's not strangle the trees by getting them snarled up in red-tape between Nation and State! Farmers want the right to cut a bit of their own timber, or get some stuff out of their wood-lots without being obliged to get a permit from an official. Farmers also will grow more timber if taxes do not eat it up or fire destroy. Forestry is a big problem. It affects everybody. All must cooperate in behalf of more timber."

**Olive Oil Adulteration** Olive oil handlers in New York were warned April 4 that the Federal Bureau of Chemistry had found numerous adulterants in olive oil, and were told by W.R.M. Wharton, Chief of the eastern division for the bureau, that strict enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act could be expected. (Journal of Commerce, Apr. 5.)



## Potato Grades

"In the opinion of the marketing experts of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, there is rather general dissatisfaction on the part of growers and shippers with the present potato grades. There is also objection to the proposal of increasing the tolerance from the present six to the proposed ten per cent for the number one grade. The contention is made that this increased tolerance will have the effect of a general widening of the spread between the price paid the producer and the price received from the retailer. Allowing the larger percentage of defective stock in the best grade of potatoes, penalizes the shipper of the best grade of stock and generally lowers the grade to the detriment of the grower. A premium grade above the number one is therefore proposed to take care of the best quality of goods. Three, and possibly four, extra grades are then proposed according to tolerance allowed for defective stock, the first grade allowing five to six per cent, the second grade allowing ten to twelve per cent, the third grade allowing fifteen to eighteen per cent, and a fourth grade that will identify potatoes outside of these conditions." (The Farmer, Apr. 1.)

Russian Famine  
Close in Sight

A Moscow dispatch to The New York Times to-day states that ex-Governor Goodrich, of Indiana, who left for America April 4 to report to the American Relief Administration, said he believed the famine in the Volga and other regions where the relief organization was operating would be virtually ended after April 15, when American corn distribution was expected to reach its maximum.

U.S. Grain  
Growers, Inc.

The Farmer (St. Paul) for April 1 says in an editorial: "Very few people who attended the Chicago meeting last week were able to come away with any definite conclusions as to what actual results have been achieved by the United States Grain Growers. It was difficult also to determine what measure of support should be given to the organization in the future by grain growers who want actual results rather than long experiments in grain marketing. While all who attended this meeting had the friendliest sort of interest in co-operative grain marketing, as proposed by the Committee of Seventeen, there was a decided difference of opinion on the part of the delegates on the question as to the ability of those in charge of the United States Grain Growers to carry on the organization to a successful conclusion. An ominous cloud hangs over the organization at this time because of the fact that it can not go on with its work without the undivided support of all grain growers. It is questionable if any general marketing plan can succeed without that sort of support. ... As was mentioned in The Farmer many months ago, any possible failure of the United States Grain Growers or any other cooperative marketing organization can not be considered a reflection on cooperation. The prediction has been freely made that if the new cooperative grain marketing plan is not a success it would set back the cooperative movement for many years. This is nonsense, if we correctly size up what farmers are thinking about. ... Whatever the outcome of the United States Grain Growers may be, the experience has been worth while and should be an inspiration for future plans for farmers to take over into their own hands the marketing machinery for handling farm crops."



Wheat Market-  
ing in Texas

Three million bushels of wheat have been pooled in the campaign of the Texas Farm Bureau Federation just closed in thirty Texas counties. (Dallas dispatch to press, Apr. 5.)

Wool Tariff

The Argentine wool exporters have requested Foreign Minister Pueyrredon to seek to prevent the proposed American permanent tariff of thirty cents a pound on washed wool from "constituting a prohibitive measure for Argentine exportation." The wool exporters declare such a duty, "regardless of quality," will exclude Argentine coarse wools from the American market and endanger the Argentine sheep-raising industry. (Buenos Aires dispatch to press, Apr. 6.)

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### Section 3,

#### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Farm Products

Apr. 5: Chicago wheat prices lower influenced by cash situation; Chicago May wheat closing at \$1.30; Chicago May corn lower at 57 3/4¢. No export business reported. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 mixed corn 56¢; No. 2 yellow corn 57¢; No. 3 white oats 36¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 43¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.32 3/4; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.18.

Chicago hog prices up 10 to 20¢, bulk of sales \$10.15 to \$10.65. Beef steers steady to strong, medium and good grades \$7.35 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers \$4.50 to \$8.25. Fat lambs strong to \$2.50 higher at \$13.50 to \$16.50.

Potato markets steady. Maine bulk Green Mountains weaker at \$1.15 to \$1.25 per 100 lbs. Florida Spaulding Rose \$8.50 to \$9.50 per barrel in leading Eastern markets. Florida tomatoes steady in New York at \$2.50 to \$2.75 per 6-basket carrier. Texas Bermuda onions slightly weaker in leading Eastern markets at \$4.50 to \$5.50 per standard crate.

Hay markets generally firm because of light receipts; prices higher at Pittsburgh and Chicago. Demand mostly local and for immediate needs only. Mill feed markets unchanged. Underlying conditions slightly firmer. Wheat and corn feed production rather heavy; offerings liberal. Better jobbing demand held prices steady.

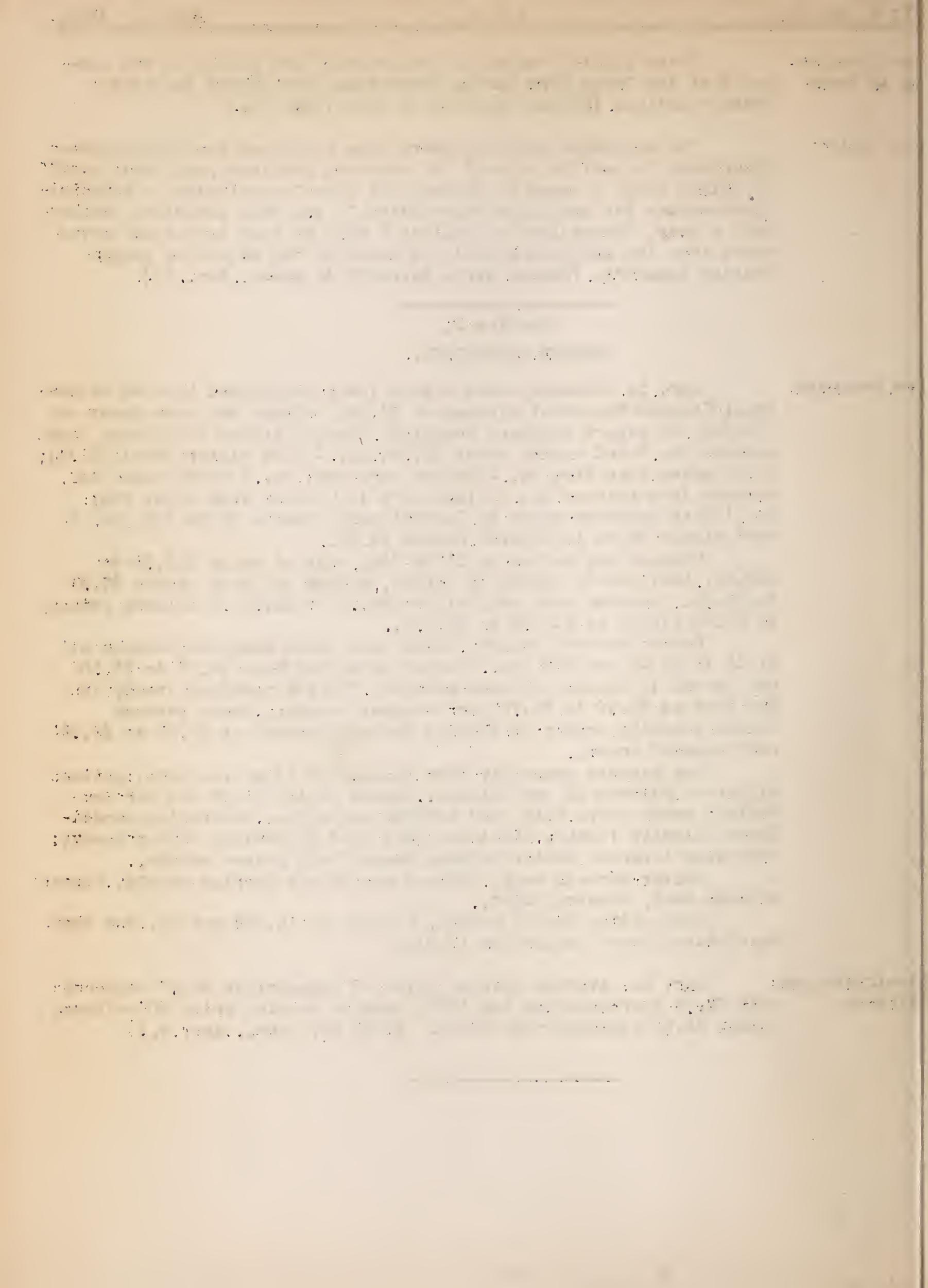
Butter markets weak. Chicago market has surplus supply. Cheese markets weak, trading light.

Spot cotton down 3 points, closing at 16.98¢ per lb. New York May futures down 9 points at 17.91¢.

Industrials and  
Railroads

Apr. 5: Average closing price 20 industrials 90.67 compared with 76.56 corresponding day 1921; average closing price 20 railroad stocks 81.55 compared with 70.56. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 6.)

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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 6.

Section 1.

April 7, 1922.

Farmer on Reserve  
Board

A favorable report of the Senate bill providing for the appointment of a farmer as a member of the Federal Reserve Board was ordered April 6 by the House Banking committee. The committee approved the measure by 13 to 8, with Chairman McFadden among those who opposed action. It eliminated Senate provisions to increase the size of the board from 7 to 8 members and to limit the cost of Reserve Board buildings. Efforts will be made in the House to have both provisions reinstated. Chairman McFadden was instructed to obtain a special rule giving the bill privileged status on the House calendar. (Press, Apr. 7.)

Radio Legislation  
messages. (Press, Apr. 7.)

The House April 6 agreed to the conference report on the Navy radio bill, extending until 1925 the time in which Government lines would be permitted to handle press and commercial

Civil Service

"Inertia in Public Service" is the title of an editorial in The Wall Street Journal to-day, which says in part: "A situation has been created in the public service in Washington by the summary removal of a number of employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing ... Every effort is being made to import politics into a measure obviously necessary in the public interest, and the Civil Service law is invoked by people with an exaggerated idea of the meaning and usefulness of 'civil service.' In after years the story will be told of the return of Washington to business methods under the active reconstruction of Charles G. Dawes, backed by the President. It is not too much to say that the chief obstacle presented to General Dawes has not been the ironclad rules of civil service, the political power behind many appointees, any lack of intelligence in the heads of departments or want of patriotism in the employees, or even direct hostility by those who profited, in power or pocket, from the disbursement of public funds. The great obstacle, met once more in the Bureau of Engraving, has been inertia. ... A great corporation like the United States Steel Co. does not handicap itself with anything corresponding to civil service. No employee, from President Farrell to the rawest apprentice, has any indefeasible right in his job. He holds it on merit, tested every day of his service, and when he ceases to be effective his place is taken by another. The result is an efficiency such as no public department could ever emulate. Under civil service rules when an employee has once passed the qualifying examination he can consider himself irremovable. The chief stimulus to competitively good work is removed and only a severely straitened ambition remains. ..."



## Section 2.

## Agricultural Credit Legislation

Referring to the Lenroot-Anderson farm credit bill, The Indiana Farmer's Guide for April 1 says: "There are some very good features about this bill and it deserves proper consideration. It attempts to provide credit for farmers who need loans for relatively short periods, but it has the same objection as most credit proposals, in that it does not provide for those men who wish to farm and do not have the necessary land to give as collateral. We have always felt that our credit systems would not be complete until some method could be devised whereby the men of small means may be financed in their farming operations. It should be made possible for local banks to offer credit to young farmers whose principal collateral are honesty, good health, industry, thrift and moral character. Under the provisions of the Lenroot bill the landless man would be no better off than at present."

## Australian Meat Export

A dispatch from Melbourne to The Philadelphia Public Ledger for April 6 says: "Premier Hughes gave details April 5 of an elaborate program to assist the meat export industry of Queensland. It proposes reductions in wages and in freight and handling charges, granting of a Commonwealth subsidy and an effort by the Commonwealth to dispose of old stocks now in London."

A dispatch from Melbourne to the London Times says: "The grave condition of the beef industry in Queensland, which is the chief cattle State, has led to negotiations between the Government and producing and exporting interests in an endeavor to obtain more favorable markets abroad. The situation is said to be affected by the 'active hostility of the American trust.' "

## Agricultural Situation in Arizona

"Arizona is Coming Back" is the title of an article by E.G. Lowry, in The Philadelphia Public Ledger for April 6, which says: "Copper, cattle, and cotton are the chief three things by which Arizona lives, and last year all three of these failed the people of the State. They are just coming out of a deep valley of depression. . . . Meantime, however, the Arizonans -- the real ones -- never lost their grip. The copper men got together and agreed not to sacrifice by underbidding the market down further. The cattle men held on. The cotton growers got together and organized a cooperative. Then things began to get better. Copper improved, and the mines began to reopen late this winter. Cattle loans were secured, some from the War Finance Corporation, some elsewhere; the bad season was succeeded by a good one, and hope seemed justified. The Cotton Association secured financing from the War Finance Corporation, and thus, by organization and financing, restored confidence in cotton, and about half the two crops has been sold. The banks are now in good shape through partial liquidation; the value of land is down and the losses taken; land that was idle last year is all broken and ready to plant, where it was not planted to winter crops, and, in general, it is fair to say that Arizona is coming back. . . ."

## Bonus Legislation

Theo. H. Price says in his weekly review of business conditions, in Commerce and Finance for April 5: "At a private dinner given in New York last week sixteen important and well-informed men of large affairs were present. They were all bitterly opposed to the



passage of the bonus bill, but they were nevertheless unanimous in saying they believed that the Senate would attach it to a rider providing for the necessary revenue by a sales tax, and that in this shape the bill would be returned to the House of Representatives and passed by a large majority. They all agreed that if this happened a period of wild inflation and speculation was likely to follow because the money distributed would be rapidly spent and because a sales tax would provide a comparatively painless method of raising a revenue so large that it would incite further extravagance on the part of Congress."

Cooperative  
Marketing

"No Magic in Pooling" is the title of an editorial in The Country Gentleman for April 8, which says in part: "There is no magic in what the great cooperative associations have accomplished. Their success has been due to a strict adherence to proved business methods and the rendering of the kind of service for which the world is willing to pay. There is no magic in the mere pooling of commodities. The chances of success in cooperative marketing are great, but so are the chances of failure. A thousand men shipping collectively may obtain no greater advantage than an individual. The managers of the conspicuously successful associations realize that every product that goes into the big city markets enters into competition with similar products from all parts of the world. The Missouri egg when it arrives in New York has to compete with the Chinese egg; the California orange meets the orange from the Mediterranean coast; wool from Wyoming is laid alongside fleeces from Australia. Successful cooperative marketing means the meeting of world competition, and the place to begin meeting it is back on the farms where the products are grown. Here is where the right kind of association can render its first service. It can instruct its members and have them assume the natural hazards of their business by proper grading and packing and by furnishing the finances to go out after the markets. After that the management must take the responsibility of studying markets and meeting market conditions. This is big business in a big way. It requires market-trained men for the marketing end and organization-trained men for holding the producers in line. Cooperative marketing has been and can be made a brilliant success, but it is an undertaking requiring high-grade talent of several different kinds."

Cotton  
Acreage

Commerce and Finance for April 5 says in its review of cotton and the cotton market: "Private cotton acreage reports are already beginning to appear, although the Government's estimate of the area planted will not be completed until the end of June. End-March estimates, at the best, can only reflect prevailing sentiment as to the intention of farmers, and it will not be for another month or two that any really firm opinion as to the area can be formed. The preliminary reports now beginning to appear, however, are not without their effect, and may help in the formulation of opinions which will probably crystallize before the official report is issued at the beginning of July. It is rumored that the Watkins Bureau has preliminary returns pointing to an increase of 10 per cent in acreage, while Miss Giles, who seems to have reappeared in the lists of crop reporters, estimates that there will be an increase of 3.1 per cent, according to a statement published by Jenks, Gwynne & Co. . . ."



Genoa  
Conference

The view of "A Russian-American" on the Genoa Conference is thus recorded in *Commerce and Finance* for April 5: "Hope, long deferred, looks to Genoa as a possible turning point in the world's disordered economic system. Common effort, properly directed, could open the commercial gates of Russia and unlock the golden flood concentrated in the United States which would carry cotton, wheat, machinery, and every conceivable American product to the East, to hungry Europe and devastated Russia. It is likely to look in vain. But it need not perish. ... Notwithstanding the gloomy situation created by the children of darkness in general and the well-meant but mistaken desire of the United States to avoid entanglement in foreign political muddles, there is no reason for American business to feel unduly depressed. The reconstruction of Russia means the reconstruction of Europe. We can and should enter the Russian commercial field regardless of the course taken by the Allies. As to the ultimate outcome of such an attitude on the part of the United States, there is little fear that we would not come out on top of all the combined competition of Europe, for putting the resources of all the European nations on one side of the scales and those of the United States on the other, we possess enough regenerating resources and energy to make the business world a very cheerful place to live in."

## Marketing

Referring to the recent statement of Eugene Meyer, Jr., Director of the War Finance Corporation, to the effect that this country needs the machinery that will make possible a twelve months' marketing of its annual production, *The Indiana Farmer's Guide* for April 1 says: "That one statement sums up the solution for one of the farmers' greatest economic ills. Mr. Meyer goes on to say, 'We must recognize the necessity of selling our agricultural products more gradually than we did in former years and the corresponding necessity of carrying our commodities for a longer period of marketing. So, if we provide financing for the gradual marketing of our commodities we will be doing only what any sensible merchant would do in handling his business.' ... Mr. Meyer has taken a mighty sensible view of the marketing problem. Nothing has made it more necessary for the producer to sell at the buyer's price than the fact that he has not been organized on a twelve-months' marketing basis. When we do get our marketing organizations perfected and make them a stabilizing, not a monopolizing, influence we ought to have the consumer's support and the good will of the public. ... A twelve-months' marketing program is not a trust movement and there is no reason in the world why farmers should not have the support of the general public in perfecting it."

Stockyards  
Feed Prices

"Recently the Indianapolis stockyards announced an advance of 20¢ per bushel in the price of corn supplied to live stock there. Last week Secretary Wallace suspended the advance pending a hearing to be held April 27. The price of feed at any stockyards is not generally understood, for it has been made to cover other costs than feed. Stockyards companies find it easier to collect money to cover expenses and profits by getting it in feed prices than by imposing some other charge. The disadvantage of this is that nobody can tell whether the feed price is equitable or otherwise, because nobody but the stockyards company can determine what it must be to



cover necessary costs. It would probably be more satisfactory to the public, though less convenient to the stockyards and the commission men, to make specific charges for service and to keep feed prices in harmony with the market prices thereof. The whole matter of stockyards costs will be reviewed before long and their fairness determine (National Stockman and Farmer, Apr. 1.)

Tariff  
Legislation

"Tariff on Farm Products" is the title of an editorial in The Wall Street Journal for April 5, which says: "It is announced that the Senate Finance Committee has completed its consideration of rates of duty on imports of farm products. The list submitted contains the possibility of a little good, and of a great deal of harm which would fall upon the farmers as well as the general public. Take flaxseed, for instance, The candidate for reelection can point with pride to the duty of 40 cents a bushel on a product now selling for about \$1.75, making the increase about 22 per cent. Industry in the United States consumes about 26,000,000 bushels. The principal uses are for paint, printer's ink, linoleum and cattle feed. We raise about 10,000,000 bushels, not because we can not produce more, but for the reason that farmers don't care to plant it on any but new ground. Canada raises a great deal in her undeveloped western provinces, of which she ships about 95 per cent to the United States, in exchange for manufactured products. If more is needed it is purchased from another undeveloped country, Argentina, now becoming an important customer of ours, which is taking manufactured products of almost every description, from needles to locomotives. Increase the price of this raw material 22 per cent, and the product must cost more. The farmer is a fairly good customer of the paint manufacturers, and he must pay his share of the tax. He also must pay it in his cattle feed, and this will be reflected in the price of beef and dairy products.

"One item alone might be overlooked. But it seems as if every product of Canada must be taxed to a prohibitive point. That country is comparatively new and must buy large quantities of manufactured goods, which are to be paid for with farm products. There is only one other country in the world that buys so much from the United States. And yet, we are aiming to treat this important customer in a way no merchant with a modicum of common sense would treat one of his customers. Markets are as essential for farm prosperity as for that of industry. . . ."

Wheat Grades

"Grades Will not be Reduced" is the title of an editorial in Northwest Farmstead for April 1, which says: "As predicted by Northwest Farmstead several months ago, the report of the committee appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Henry C. Wallace to investigate spring wheat grades has reported not in favor of lower grades, but in favor of higher grades. . . . Northwest Farmstead has pointed out to the Secretary that slight changes in this recommendation would be better. The denomination 'excess foreign matter' should be a part of this grade, as 'excess moisture' is a part of the grade designation on damp wheat, thus assuring the man who has clean wheat of pay for his wheat, which the other method, unfortunately, would prevent. The recommendations of the commission, one of whom is now the president of the Agricultural College of North Dakota, guarantees that we shall have no reduction in the grades, as has been demanded by ignorant politicians in the Steenerson bill and other vicious proposed legislation, which would have lost large sums to farmers, millers and consumers in the Northwest."



Section 3.  
MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 6: Chicago wheat prices unsettled within 2 cent range for May future. Chicago May wheat closed higher at \$1.30 1/4; Chicago May corn higher at 58 1/2¢. Flour trade at standstill. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 mixed corn 57¢; No. 2 yellow corn 58¢; No. 3 white oats 36¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 44¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.31 1/4; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.18.

Chicago hog prices steady to 5¢ higher, bulk of sales \$10.15 to \$10.70. Beef steers mostly steady; medium and good grades \$7.35 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers steady to 15¢ lower at \$4.50 to \$8.25. Fat lambs down 25 to 50¢ at \$13.00 to \$16.25.

Potato markets weak. Florida Spaulding Rose \$8.25 to \$9.00 per barrel in eastern markets. Texas Bermuda onions steady at \$5.00 to \$6.00 per standard crate in eastern markets. Florida strawberries steady in Boston and Philadelphia at 50 to 55¢ per quart. Florida cabbage weak in New York and Philadelphia at \$1.25 to \$1.37 1/2 per 1 1/2 bushels hampers.

Hay market generally firm account light receipts. Alfalfa wanted at Chicago. Some indications of larger movement as country roads improve. Mill feed markets unchanged. Interior demand unimproved. Alfalfa meal steady. Domestic and export demand for oil meals negligible.

Butter markets barely steady. Increased receipts at Chicago. Cheese markets weak with light trading.

Spot cotton down 7 points closing at 16.91¢ per lb. New York May futures down 10 points at 17.81¢. (Prepared by the Bur. of Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and  
Railroads

Apr. 6: Average closing price 20 industrials 90.80 compared with 76.16 corresponding day 1921; average closing price 20 railroad stocks 82.78 compared with 69.98. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 7.)

The Associated Press to-day says: "Dealings in all classes of stocks on the New York Stock Exchange April 6 amounted to about 1,575,000 shares, the largest total of any session since 1920, when the market values were subjected to considerable depression. The number of stocks traded in, mostly at extreme gains of 1 to 6 points, was estimated at between 440 and 450 separate issues, this about equaling the record made last March, ... Yesterday's extraordinary buoyancy and activity again was predicated on indications that general economic conditions throughout the country are working back to normal."



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 7.

Section 1.

April 8, 1922.

The President  
and Civil Service

The Washington Herald to-day says: "President Harding has served warning on the civil service that it must not seek to so strongly intrench itself as to tie his hands. The President's attitude toward civil service, which has caused a stir both in Congress and throughout the departments here as a result of recent shake-ups, has been made clear authoritatively at the White House. Summed up, it is this: (1.) There is no drive on against the civil service; (2.) There is a drive on to improve the administration of the departments under civil service; (3.) The President is directly responsible for the administration of the Government and if the civil service attempts to tie the Executive's hands, the service itself will be looked into. ... "

Agricultural  
Appropriation  
Bill Set Aside

The Agricultural Appropriation bill was made the unfinished business in the Senate April 7, Senator McNary, in charge, having an understanding with Senator Ball that it will be temporarily laid aside the first of the week and the Rent Commission Extension Act given the right of way. (Press, Apr. 8.)

New Retirement Bill

Federal employees who are separated involuntarily from their positions would receive retirement benefits under a bill introduced in the House April 7 by Representative Fairfield. (Press, Apr. 8.)

American  
Representative  
at Genoa

"Richard Washburn Child, the American Ambassador to Italy, will depart for Genoa to-day. The Ambassador informed the Associated Press April 7 that while he distinctly understood that no official American representative would be sent to Genoa, the deep interest and sympathy felt by the American Nation and Government in the labors of the conference made it only natural that he, as Ambassador, should go to Genoa, ... and thus be enabled to report to Washington on the exchange of ideas and obtain personal information from the delegates, with many of whom he already was personally acquainted." (N.Y. Times, Apr. 8.)

Radio Bill  
to President

President. (Press, Apr. 8.)

The Senate April 7 adopted the conference report on the Navy radio bill extending until June 30, 1925, the time in which Government-owned radio will be permitted to handle press and commercial messages in the Pacific. The bill now goes to the



## Cotton

## Section 2.

"Southern Cotton Monopolists, Beware!" is the title of an editorial in The Journal of Commerce for April 7, which says: "Complacent in the belief that they possess a virtually monopolistic position in the production of the world's supply of commercial cotton, not a few planters in the South -- or at least an active and persistent element of them -- are apparently obsessed with the idea of limiting production in order to raise prices. The gospel preached by the American Cotton Association has for a considerable time past been shot through with this philosophy. ... These would-be manipulators would do well to give careful thought to their premise. Is it true that theirs is a monopolistic power? It is true, of course, that the cotton produced in our southern States forms at present so large a part of the world's output of commercial cotton that it more or less 'dominates' the market. But is it quite safe to assume that this condition of affairs is to remain in *statu quo* indefinitely? The United Kingdom for years has been active in search for and in development of other cotton growing areas within the borders of the empire. The same was true to somewhat less degree of certain other countries. Recent reports indicate that considerable success is attending efforts to produce high grade cotton in Australia. ... A movement is on foot, backed by Premier Hughes, for raising \$25,000,000 and employing 10,000 growers to raise cotton. India, too, of course, presents very large possibilities in cotton growing. Textile manufacturers in Great Britain are well aware of this fact and are busily engaged there in an effort to rid themselves of their dependence upon us for raw material. Neither has British capital overlooked the possibilities of Africa, and considerable success is attending its persistent effort to produce the staple in that continent. ... These items are not large, but they are significant. ... "

## Filled Milk

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for March 31 says: "We are informed that the Governor of New Jersey has signed the bill which prohibits the manufacture and sale of filled milk within that State. This is a splendid victory for those responsible for this legislation. It is by no means an easy task to convince a legislature of the justice and wisdom of prohibiting the manufacture of a product which is in itself wholesome and nutritious. To accomplish such legislation it requires the support of scientists and dietitians who have studied the value of foods and of officials who know by experience the fraud and deception perpetrated in the selling of so-called dairy substitutes. ... Since milk is our fundamental food the consumer must be protected against any possible substitution. The only way to do this is to prohibit the manufacture and sale of filled milk, for labeling this product does not protect the consumer. A prohibitory law was enacted in Wisconsin a year ago and it is now being contested in the Supreme Court. A favorable decision is expected, especially in view of the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the Ohio case."

## Foreign Trade

In a statement on "Our Egyptian Trade; Present and Prospective," National City Bank of New York says: "The growth of our trade with Egypt in recent years has been one of the striking features of the commercial changes during and since the war. Our total trade with Egypt since the beginning of the war has averaged about \$50,000,000 a year against about \$18,000,000 per annum in the decade preceding the war."



## Ocean Transportation

Strong action in favor of the establishment of uniform ocean bills of lading has been taken by the Commerce and Marine Commission of the American Bankers Association, it was announced to-day, by the adoption of a resolution indorsing the Hague Rules, 1921, which define the rights and liabilities of cargo owners and ship owners. This action of the Commission followed the presentation of a favorable report on the matter by a special committee. (Amer. Bankers Assoc. press statement, Apr. 8.)

## Packers and Stockyards Act

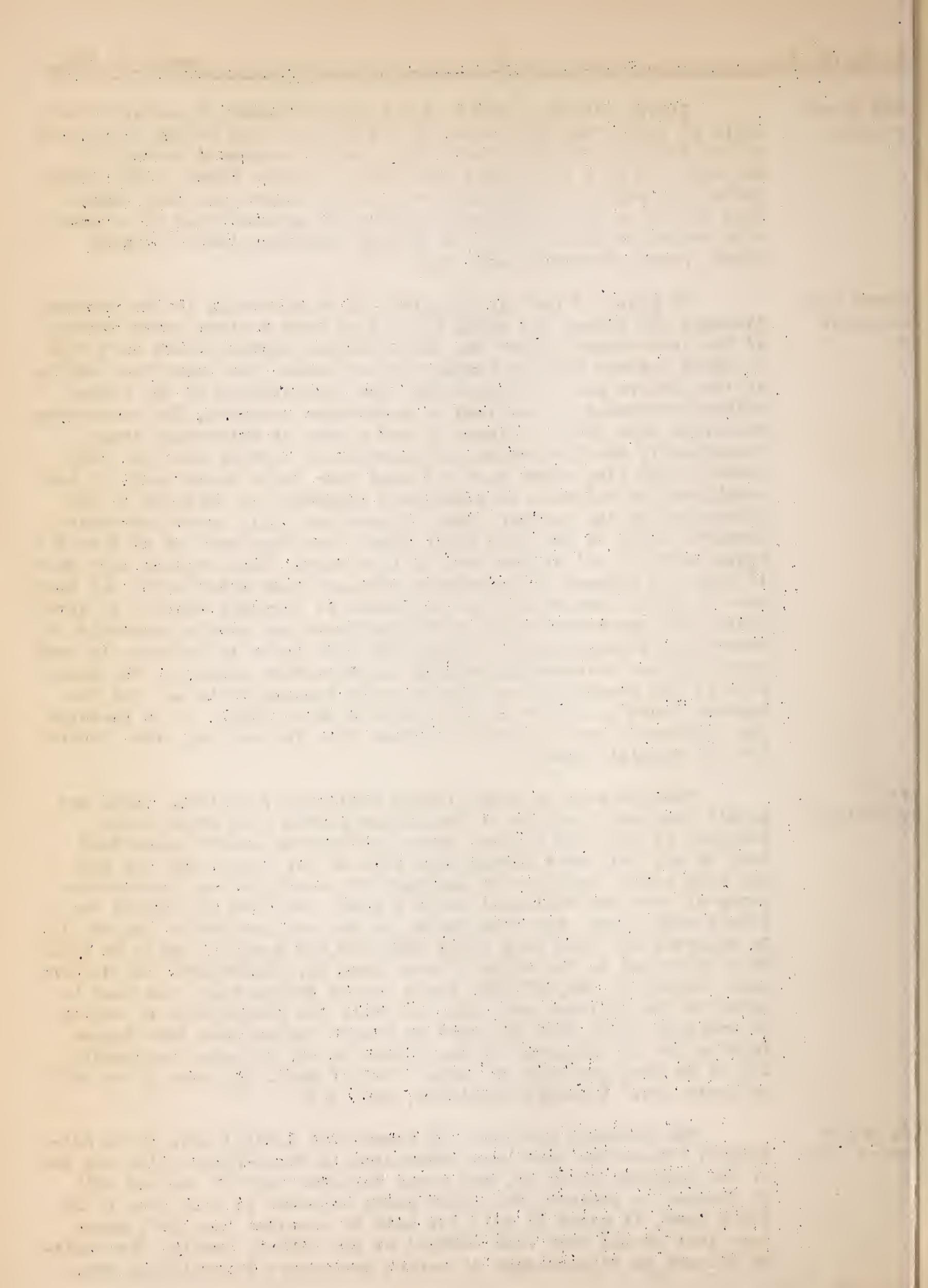
"A Point of Law" is the title of an editorial in The National Stockman and Farmer for April 1, <sup>It says:</sup> "Let us have a clear understanding of the case argued before the United States Supreme Court last week in which certain Chicago commission men assail the constitutionality of the Packers and Stockyards law. The jurisdiction of the United States Government is confined to interstate commerce. The commission men claim that their business is not a part of interstate trade, consequently the Government can exercise no control over it. They contend that live stock does not come into their hands until it has completed its relation to interstate commerce, on delivery to the stockyards by the carrier; that it does not again enter interstate commerce until it has left their hands, and that most of it does not again enter at all in the form of live stock. They contend also that if they are engaged in interstate business then practically all business in which commodities are delivered at terminal markets is interstate. The Government holds that stockyards are merely terminals of interstate transportation systems and that those in business in such terminals are necessarily engaged in interstate commerce. The position of the commission men appears most reasonable to us, but the Supreme Court's opinion is the only one that counts. If it sustains the commission men's position neither this law nor any other Federal law can regulate them."

## Tariff Legislation

"Europe owes us some fifteen billions of dollars. There are in all the world outside of the United States only about seven billions of gold and silver. Even a politician should understand that to pay this debt Europe must sell us her goods. She can not pay with money. Neither can she pay with money for our present exports of over two billions' worth a year. She must pay almost entirely with goods, buy with goods, or she can not pay or buy at all. We imported all told only about \$760,000,000 worth of goods in 1921. We sold abroad to the value of more than \$2,250,000,000. The difference, almost \$1,500,000,000, was a credit transaction, and must be added to the billions now owing us. Will the competition be easier on American labor when the debt is bigger and we must take bigger imports for its payment? If the answer is no, as seems reasonable, let us be wary how high we build a tariff wall. It shuts in as well as shuts out." (Country Gentleman, Apr. 8.)

## U.S. Grain Growers, Inc.

The National Stockman and Farmer for April 1 says in an editorial: "Those who have been interested in this organization are now of two opinions about it. One party believes that it can and will go forward to success; the other party believes it will have to be built anew. It might be well for both to consider the vital question that should have been settled at the outset, namely, the ability of such an organization to market grain more economically than



other agencies can do it. With deductions necessary for operating and capital accounts, without the insurance offered by the use of speculative markets, and without the incentives to economy that apply in ordinary business, it is still doubtful whether any such organization can market grain cheaper than other agencies can. This does not mean that cooperative marketing of grain is impossible, for it is being carried on successfully right along; but it does mean that the economy of the plan on which U.S. Grain Growers Inc. is founded is not yet proved in the grain business. The basis of success lies not in a great number of members or in harmony among them. It lies back of that, in the essential economy of the system and the ability of the organization to effect economies in actual marketing. For economy, not merely cooperation, is the foundation of success in marketing."

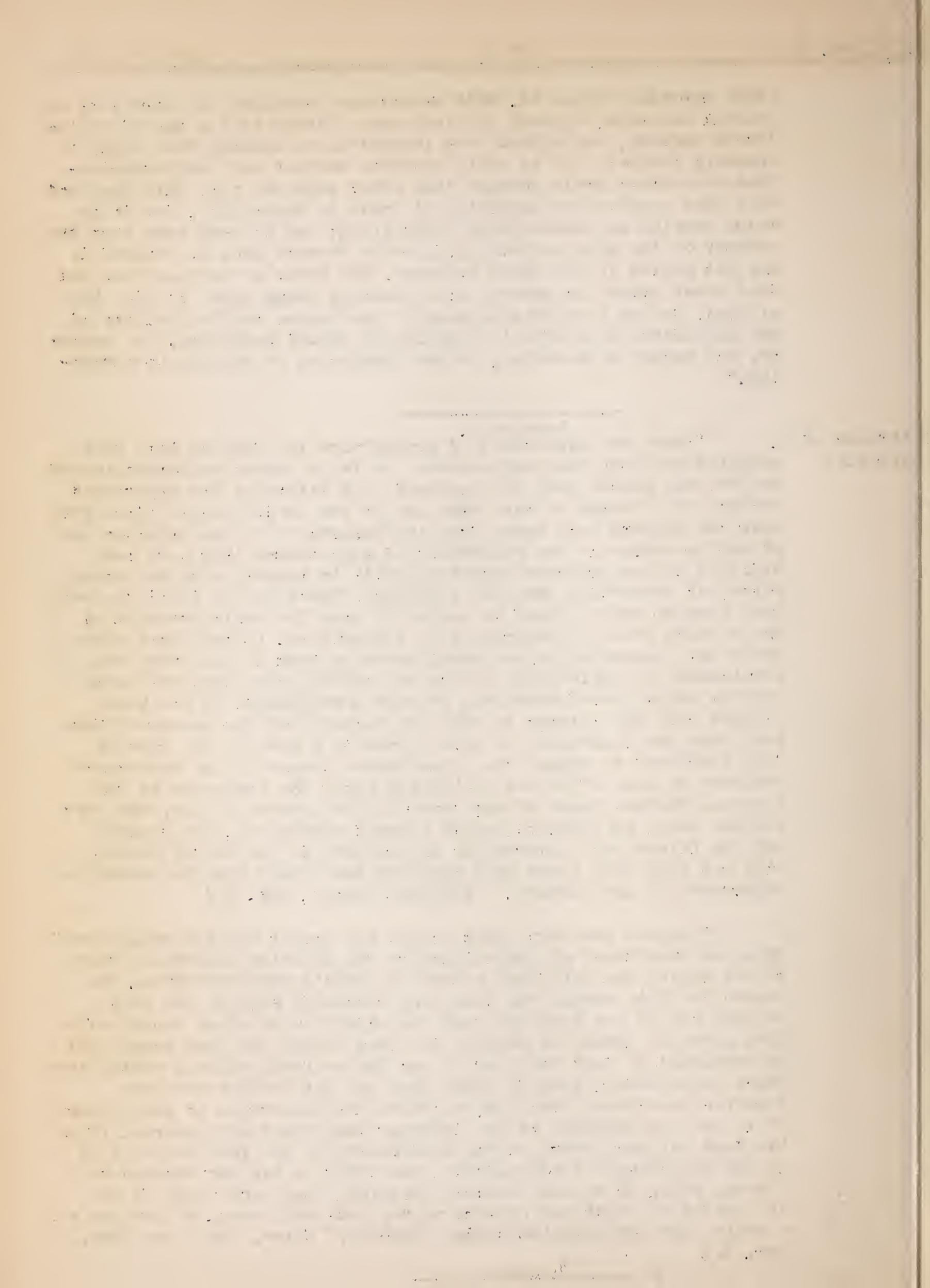
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### Section 3.

Department of Agriculture 1. "Under the Department of Agriculture the forests have been administered with care and success, as far as their conservation and use for the public good is concerned, and naturally the department resents the attempt to take them out of its jurisdiction. Since 1905 when the forests were taken from the Department of the Interior and placed in charge of the Department of Agriculture they have been utilized to the greatest extent possible in keeping with the sound policy of conserving them for posterity. There are at least two very good reasons why it would be unwise to take the administration of the forests from the Department of Agriculture. In the first place their use, conservation and development go hand in hand with the development of agriculture and in the second place they are being capably administered under the present arrangement. It has been charged that the attempt to take the forests and the Bureau of Markets from the Department of Agriculture is a move on the part of 'big business' to weaken the agricultural branch of the Government and make it less effective in looking after the interests of the farmers. Whether there is any truth in that charge or not, the fact remains that, particularly under present conditions, the farmers and the friends of a successful agriculture in the United States will not look with favor upon any move that would tend to weaken the Department of Agriculture." (Montana Farmer, Apr. 1.)

2. "Certain interests want to get the Forest Service transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the Interior Department where it was before the Ballinger scandal in Taft's administration. The reason for this change has been very carefully kept in the background, but it now develops that the objective is about twenty million acres of timber in Alaska. For some reason the same crowd that we permitted to loot the rest of our timber lands without making them start reforesting, seem to think they can get further with the Interior Department than they can with the Department of Agriculture. It is not the business of the Interior Department to conserve. It is the land selling agency of the Government. If the forests are left in the Department of Agriculture, the right to log our Alaskan resources will, if we have learned anything, also carry with it an obligation to start new forests on the cut-over areas. We are now in a panic over our depleted timber supplies." (Farm, Stock and Home, Apr. 1.)

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## Section 4.

## MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

Commissioner of Agriculture, C.P. Norgard, Dr. O.H. Eliason and J.S. Healy, of Madison, Wis., will be in Washington from April 8 to 10, and may be reached through the office of Dr. J.R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Dr. Hartwell Robbins, the department representative in charge of tick eradication work in the State of North Carolina, is at the department to-day for a conference with Dr. Mohler and the officials of the Bureau of Animal Industry on matters pertaining to tick eradication in North Carolina.

## Section 5.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 7: Narrow range in Chicago wheat market. May future closing higher at \$1.30 3/4; Chicago May corn higher at 58 3/4;. Trade largely of evening up character awaiting crop estimate. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 mixed corn 57¢; No. 2 yellow corn 58¢; No. 3 white oats 36¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 44 1/2¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.32 5/8; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.18.

Chicago hog prices strong, bulk of sales \$10.25 to \$10.75. All classes of beef cattle generally steady. Medium and good beef steers \$7.35 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers \$4.50 to \$8.15. Sheep and lambs generally steady. Fat lambs \$13.00 to \$16.25.

Potato markets weak, Maine Green Mountains \$1.10 to \$1.15 per 100 lbs, in bulk at shipping points, Florida Spaulding Rose \$10.00 per double head barrel in Boston; \$8.50 to \$8.75 in New York and Pittsburgh; \$6 at shipping points. Alabama and South Carolina cabbage various varieties \$2 to \$2.75 per 100 lb. crate in consuming centers.

Hay market continues strong; prices at several markets firm. Clover prices same as Timothy at Pittsburgh, which is \$24. Mill feed markets steady but inactive. Wheat and corn feed production continue heavy. Offerings heavy, demand light. Oil meals down about \$1 per ton in shipping markets.

Butter markets steady. Cheese markets continue weak with light trading.

Spot cotton down 2 points, closing at 16.89¢, New York May futures down 3 points at 17.78¢. (Prepared by the Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

## Industrials and Railroads

Apr. 7: Average closing price 20 industrials 90.80 compared with 75.61 corresponding day 1921; average closing price 20 railroad stocks 83.20 compared with 69.59. (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 8.)



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 8.

Section 1.

April 10, 1922.

Foreign Valuation  
as Tariff Basis

Foreign valuation as the underlying principle of the permanent tariff bill was agreed upon April 8 by Republican members of the Senate Finance Committee. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 9.)

Muscle Shoals

Chairman Norris, of the Senate Agricultural Committee, April 8 made public a congressional resolution he will propose for a Government-owned and operated corporation, to be conducted under the supervision of three directors appointed by the President for development of the vast nitrate and water-power projects at Muscle Shoals, Ala. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 9.)

Farm Produce  
Legislation

The House April 8 adopted an amendment to the Justice-State Department appropriation bill providing that no part of the appropriations carried shall be used for prosecution of any organization, person, etc., for entering into combinations or agreements having in view the increase of wages, shortening of hours or bettering conditions of labor, or for prosecuting farm producers or farm associations, etc., for organizing in an effort to "obtain and maintain a fair and reasonable price" for their products. (Press, Apr. 9.)

Civil Service

A new administration with a fresh mandate from the people should have a free hand in the selection of "higher officials" intrusted with administrative policies and executive discretion, John H. Bartlett, Second Assistant Postmaster General and until recently head of the Civil Service Commission, asserted April 9. Mr. Bartlett's formal statement was regarded as an official explanation of the attitude of the Harding administration on the civil service, and an indication that President Harding intends to make changes in the executive heads of various Government departments, notably the Treasury Department, where administrative spokesmen assert gross inefficiency exists. Mr. Bartlett said it was hard to determine where classification should end in Government service. "The great body of civil service workers," the statement concluded, "should not change from administration to administration. Efficiency in Government as well as justice to employees demands this. But executive and administrative officials whom the President must rely upon to carry out his policies must change from administration to administration in order to carry into full force and effect the expressed will of the people in a popular government." (Press, Apr. 10)



## Section 2.

Agricultural 1. The War Finance Corporation announces that from April 3 to Financing April 5, 1922, inclusive, it approved 55 advances, aggregating \$1,911,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes in 18 States. (W.F.C. press statement, Apr. 6.)

2. "One may have been inclined to doubt the power of the law-makers to cure hard times, and yet one must admit, now that better conditions are at hand, that the legislation of the past year has been helpful. Maybe the emergency tariff law on farm products was a favorable factor. It is hard to be sure about it. But the revival of the War Finance Corporation is another story, and very pleasant in the telling. That law, placing a billion dollars in the hands of an active young man with instructions to 'go out and help the farmer', has gone far to convince the most skeptical that there is a power for good in proper Government action. Mr. Eugene Meyer, Jr., Managing Director of the Corporation, has been a veritable good fairy to the country. He has poured millions into the banks which carried agricultural credits to the near-breaking point, until every section of the Nation has felt the bracing effects of a well administered tonic. The best of it is that we have no reason to anticipate any unfavorable reaction. Already the first loans made are being paid back, before they are due." (Farm Life, April.)

## Cotton

"To-day the southern States of America have a near monopoly on cotton. Just how long the United States will continue to produce a large share of the cotton consumed in the mills of Europe will depend largely upon our ability to supply the demand at a fair price, and produce economically enough to make the industry pay a profit to the farmers. Every time the price of spot cotton reaches a point higher than the European consumer thinks it ought to go, he renews his efforts to develop the industry in some other part of the world, and it may be said that these experiments have been successful enough to encourage them in the belief that some day they will be independent of American growers. A recent report received by the Department of Commerce tells of a shipment of 136 tons, or about 55 American bales, from the State of Queensland, Australia. It was cotton of good grade and staple. Not very much cotton, you will say, but when it is learned that the State of Queensland contains approximately 50,000,000 acres suitable for cotton growing and that last year they produced 1,300 pounds of seed cotton per acre, it puts a different construction on the situation. In 1921 only a few acres were planted. The next planting in this State will approximate 1,500 acres, the grower to be subsidized by the Government, and should the production prove as profitable as last season, the acreage will be increased. About the only reason that Australia is not now a competitor of America in cotton growing is found in the fact that the country is very thinly settled and there are not yet enough interested in the new industry to plant an acreage of sufficient size to be noticed in the market." (Farm and Ranch, Apr. 8.)

## Cotton Prices

"There has been a kind of see-saw in the swing of cotton quotations of late, with the range quite narrow. The last week showed no variance in this respect. While some attention is paid to the existing stocks of cotton and to spinners' demands, the main interest centers in the prospects for this year's yield" (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)



## County Agents

"A Prospective Mistake" is the title of an editorial in National Stockman and Farmer for April 8, which says: "We hear that two great national organizations of business men will make a campaign for the repeal of the Smith-Lever law. They are sore about certain activities of sundry county agents and want to wipe out the whole system of extension under which these agents are working. We might as well admit that some county agents, in some states but not in all, have gone farther into business affairs than their position as public servants justifies. Usually they have done so with the best intentions and without considering the fact that they hold official positions. In such cases the proper thing to do is to define the right course and set them on it, or else retire them and allow those who employ them in business affairs to pay them. There is no sense in wrecking a great system of rural education and development because some of its employees have made mistakes. And those who attempt to wreck that system will find, before they get very far, that they have made a costly mistake."

## Economic Research

The forecasting of business conditions which has been done for more than two years by the Harvard Economic Service, operated by Harvard University under the direction of a group of business men and investigators known as the Committee on Economic Research, is now being supplemented by a study of the fluctuations of industrial production. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)

## Farmer on Reserve Board

"A Farmer's Nostrum" is the title of an editorial in The Wall Street Journal to-day, which says: "It is of importance that the House Committee on Banking and Currency has decided to report out the bill to amend the Federal Reserve law so as to secure farmer representation on the board. It seems cruel to set farmers to chasing such a will-o'-the-wisp as this, which so many of them have been made to believe would make money easier for them. The politician dares not tell them that it can do nothing of the sort. Farmers have been told that the Federal Reserve brought about liquidation, by pressure upon loans, and that the agricultural sections were discriminated against. But no one making such an assertion has ever been able to prove it. On the contrary, the records show that there was far less liquidation of farm loans in 1920 than of any others. With the exception of the Kansas City district, liquidation of agricultural paper did not assume an equal proportion until 1921. Instead of discriminating against the farming sections, the Federal Reserve was helping them. When deflation was at its crest and industry was liquidating in 1920, New York, Boston and other large centers were sending a continuous stream of money to the South and West. The gold settlement clearings show this, and can be easily verified. Any farmer can satisfy himself. . . . Farmers must deal direct with their banks, show they are entitled to a loan and make the paper come within the legal maturity date. Their ills will not be cured by this so-called 'dirt farmer' legislation, which is no more than a nostrum."

## Foreign Trade

Reduction in prices is one of the chief causes of the fact that the value of finished manufactures exported from the United States was only \$92,000,000 in January, 1922, against \$299,000,000 in January, 1921. (Trade Record of The National City Bank of New York, Apr. 10.)



## Grain Grading

"What effect will the provisions of the Steenerson bill now under consideration have on values and the general traffic in northwestern spring wheat? It is safe to assume that it will have no particular effect, so far as buying and selling by sample on the Minneapolis Exchange is considered. There a mill buyer will estimate the sample very closely at its true value for milling at the moment and each division of value will, again like water, find its true level. The outside buyer of spring wheat who has not the advantage of being able to buy 'on the floor' and must buy by and accept his purchases on grade alone will most assuredly be injured by the proposed changes. As the grades stand now it is impossible for the inter-market and international buyer of spring wheat to be sure within several cents per bushel, under most favorable circumstances, of the value of the wheat that will be delivered him on grades, and the proposed changes will make this an infinitely more uncertain factor. Surely, this will hurt the producer market outside of the sample tables, more particularly when he has a surplus and most needs a favorable market. Such buyers have no recourse but to buy as cheaply as possible, figuring always on being delivered the bottom of the grade." (Who is Who in the Grain Trade, Apr. 5.)

Grain Marketing 1. "It is unfortunate that the United States Grain Growers, the first organization of farmers to attempt cooperative grain marketing on a national basis, should have been beset in its first year by internal dissension. Undoubtedly such differences within the organization have done it no good and may work a hardship upon its future success by causing a feeling of doubt in the minds of farmers and a demand from them for too exacting results from the organization. The enemies of cooperative marketing can capitalize on the troubles of the Grain Growers as an indicator of its ultimate failure. The cause is not hopeless, however. The Grain Grower organization has been sick, perhaps with growing pains, but the disease is not incurable. It would be folly, it seems to us, to abandon all of the good work that has been accomplished in the formation of this organization without giving it ample time to prove what it can do." (Nebraska Farmer, Apr. 8.)

2. The Northwestern Miller for March 29 says in an editorial on the first annual meeting of the U.S. Grain Growers, Inc.: "Important groups of members held such utterly divergent views as to the future conduct of the association that they were unable to effect any sort of a workable compromise, and the entire structure, built up so elaborately a year ago, appears to have been split from top to bottom. This in the long run will undoubtedly be an excellent thing for the farmers themselves. The fundamental trouble with the United States Grain Growers was that it was altogether too big to be practically efficient. It undertook to provide, ready made, a complete system for carrying on one of the largest tasks in the United States, with the hope of replacing an enormously complex organization which had been built up through years of effort, and which represented an immense investment of money. In order to succeed at all in this vast undertaking, it had to secure the cooperation and support of thousands of farmers, and to hold their support through a period wherein results would necessarily be few and insignificant. ... The farmers are not going to overturn, or even seriously to affect, the existing machinery for marketing grain through any such agency as the United



States Grain Growers. At the same time, the experiment has by no means proved useless. The organization still exists, and doubtless will continue in some form indefinitely, ready at any moment to take advantage of such blunders as the grain exchanges may make. This in itself is a great benefit; the establishment of a real opposition, even if it is not a particularly effective one, has already caused a considerable amount of much needed house cleaning in the grain trade, and will undoubtedly serve to curb speculative activity at the farmer's expense."

Grain  
Marketing

3. Farm, Stock and Home for April 1 says in an editorial: "As the Canadian farmers' experience with the Government as a grain handler was opposite the American farmers', there is a strong demand from the western provinces for a reestablishment of the Wheat Board, as they call it over there, ... As an emergency measure we are still for the reestablishment of the U.S. Grain Corporation and, if possible, enlarging its powers to stabilize the prices of the leading farm crops, but as a permanent organization, no. The real way out is for farmers to organize to control production, to pool their products so they can be marketed as demand arises. The passage of the Capper-Volstead Act clears the pathway of legal obstacles. We doubt very much if legislation, either for reestablishment of the grain corporation or stabilization of farm products can be passed at this season."

Wheat  
Prospects

The Wall Street Journal for April 5 says in an editorial: "In order to meet world requirements this country should produce this year 800,000,000 bushels of wheat as a minimum. Crop conditions in the winter belt are spotted and uncertain with the odds somewhat against the crop. But, notwithstanding this, the market has been settling downwards under an increasing sentiment of bearishness. During this crop season prices have been subject to a battle between economic and financial conditions on one side and supply and demand on the other. During most of this time the purse has prevailed over the stomach, remarkable as that may seem. Our visible supply also remains large, but it must be remembered that the farmers are liquidating, farm reserves are not large and we have already exported more wheat than our theoretical surplus. Argentina and Australia have contributed to the bearish sentiment by heavy shipments for several weeks, and they have considerable wheat yet to ship. But notwithstanding heavy shipments, the wheat afloat only equals four or five weeks' supply. Europe is still under the necessity of buying large quantities of foodstuffs before the new harvest is available, and the world carryover at the end of the crop year, on July 31, will surely be small. The world supply makes a large American crop necessary this year. Reports indicate a good condition in Europe, but the acreage is smaller than last year. A decrease there will mean a need for more foreign wheat. To meet this demand we should produce 600,000,000 bushels of winter wheat and a minimum of 200,000,000 of spring. ..."

## Wool

The National Association of Wool Manufacturers estimates the total 1921 wool production of the United States at 273,064,000 pounds, of which 224,564,000 was sheared and 48,500,000 pulled, equivalent to 126,021,000 scoured. (Press, Apr. 7.)



## Section 3.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 8: Chicago wheat prices lower early but later reacted on buying. Chicago May wheat closing higher at \$1.32 1/4; Chicago May corn higher at 59¢. Limited domestic and export demand for coarse grains. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.33; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.33; No. 2 mixed corn 58¢; No. 2 yellow corn 58¢; No. 3 white oats 37¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa 45¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.33 1/2; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.13.

Chicago hog prices up 5 to 10¢, bulk of sales \$10.35 to \$10.80. Cattle, sheep and lamb prices practically unchanged. Medium and good beef steers \$7.35 to \$8.85, Butcher cows and heifers \$4.50 to \$8.15. Light and medium weight veal calves \$6.25 to \$8.50. Fat lambs \$13.00 to \$16.25.

Potato markets weaker, Florida Spaulding Rose No. 1 \$7.75 to \$8.00 per barrel in trading markets; \$9.00 to \$9.50 in Chicago. Spaulding Rose weak in producing sections at \$6.00 per barrel. Florida celery steady in eastern city markets at \$4.00 to \$4.75 per 10-in. crate. Louisiana Klondikes strawberries steady in Chicago and Pittsburgh at \$4.00 to \$5.00 in 24-pint crates, Alabama and South Carolina cabbage \$2.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lb. crate in leading city markets.

Spot cotton up 3 points, closing 16.92¢ per lb. New York May futures up 11 points at 17.89¢.

Grain prices lower first of week on lack of buying and depressing cash news, but undertone improved later in week and the close showed small net gains. Chicago May wheat advanced 3/4¢; Chicago May corn up 1 1/4¢.

Chicago hog prices advanced 35 to 45¢; medium and heavy weights advanced most. Beef and butcher cattle and feeder steers averaged about steady. Veal calves weak to 50¢ lower. Lambs and fat ewes unchanged. Eastern wholesale fresh meat prices trend upward.

Hay markets continue strong account light receipts. Urgent demand is for immediate needs only. Meal feed markets steady but inactive. Wheat and corn feed production continue heavy. Linseed meal dull, demand and offerings light. Hominy quiet at lower prices. Stocks of most feeds in excess of demand.

Potato markets dull and weak with liberal supplies. Shipments average 700 cars daily. Celery steady; demand moderate. Texas yellow Bermuda onions No. 1 firm in eastern cities. Strawberries steady in most markets, weaker in Chicago and Kansas City. Apple markets steady; demand limited.

Butter markets steady to firm following a week of unsettled trading. Increased receipts at Chicago. Cheese markets weak; trading light. Buyers who anticipate still further declines are holding off. Production appears to be increasing.

Spot cotton down 7 points; New York May futures down 4 points.  
(Prepared by the Bur. Mkt. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Apr. 8	Apr. 7	Apr. 8, 1921
	20 Industrials	90.63	90.80	75.73
	20 R. R. Stocks	83.91	83.20	69.53
(Wall St. Jour. Apr. 10.)				



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## DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. V, no. 9.

Section 1.

April 11, 1922.

Fordney Demands American Valuation "It will be American valuation or Congress will remain here until the snow flies," Chairman Fordney of the House Ways and Means Committee declared April 10, after he had been informed officially that the Senate Finance Committee majority finally had determined upon foreign valuation as the underlying principle of the tariff bill, which probably will be reported to the Senate to-day. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 11.)

Federal Reserve System to be Investigated The Senate, April 10 adopted a resolution sponsored by Chairman McLean, of the Senate Banking Committee, directing that committee to investigate the administration of the Federal Reserve System and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. (Press, Apr. 11.)

Muscle Shoals Chairman Norris, of the Senate Agric. Committee, April 10 introduced his resolution designed to create a Government-owned corporation and authorizing the Secretary of War, pending the creation of the corporation, to begin construction of certain dams at Muscle Shoals. (Press, Apr. 11.)

Ford Offer Championed by Underwood Before the Senate Committee of Agriculture and Forestry, Minority Leader Underwood championed the Muscle Shoals offer of Henry Ford as the best proposal before Congress. (Press, Apr. 11.)

Farm Produce Legislation The House April 10 voted again to refuse the use of Federal funds for prosecution of labor unions or farmers' co-operative organizations under antitrust laws and then passed and sent to the Senate the regular State and Justice departments supply bill, carrying about \$26,000,000. (Press, Apr. 10.)

Genoa Conference The New York Times to-day says: "At the outset of the Genoa conference it has become plain that the United States Government hopes that the conference will achieve practical results along economic and non-political lines. If success of that character should come, this Government might find it possible to join European nations in the economic rehabilitation of Europe. . . ."



## Section 2.

## Agricultural Situation

"Agriculturally the month has been one of favorable development considering the season. Winter wheat prospects are reported good in most parts of the country. Cotton planting indicates increased acreage, although a heavy infestation of boll weevil is predicted. A larger use of fertilizer is also reported in some sections. Prospects for deciduous fruits are reported encouraging. Labor conditions in the agricultural regions are regarded as satisfactory. A material increase in the demand for labor, largely the natural seasonal growth, is reported from most districts." (Federal Reserve Bulletin, April.)

## Business Conditions

"The upward trend of production and the stronger banking position in the United States are unquestioned. Similar conditions have been in evidence in Europe, and particularly in England. Indications of a more satisfactory situation are seen first of all in the more regular and stable production outlook, in the prospect of increasing exportation, and in a more even balance of trade, Great Britain having very nearly effected an equilibrium between exports and imports, as well as in a somewhat improved budgetary situation. These factors have an important bearing not only upon European conditions themselves but also upon the relation of European countries to the United States. They also necessarily influence in an important way the export trade situation of the United States, as is seen in the fact that, as foreign countries have increased their exportation relatively to importation (both absolutely declining), a reverse movement has been going on in this country. The result is a nearer approach toward stability in international and industrial relations than has existed at any time in the recent past." (Federal Reserve Bulletin, April.)

## Cold Storage Legislation

The National Stockman and Farmer for April 8 says in an editorial: "Last week Senator Norris introduced again in Congress the bill providing for Federal regulation of cold storage. There never was and is not now any good reason for such regulation. It can accomplish little except provide more offices for those who desire a place on Uncle Sam's pay roll, make more trouble for all who are concerned in the conservation of foods, and increase the cost of getting foods from the producer to the consumer. The public is well protected by existing state and Federal legislation. The thing to do is to reform and harmonize or standardize state laws on this subject rather than attempt Federal regulation."

## College Training and Industry

According to statistics compiled by the National Catholic Welfare Council, college graduates making up only 1 per cent of the national population comprise more than 50 per cent of those who achieve leadership in the various walks of life. From a mass of data, it was computed that with an elementary education the chances for success are one in 41,250; with a high school education, one in 1,608 and with a college education one in 173. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 10.)

## Cooperatives

"The report by the Nebraska Farmers' Union of the failure of only four cooperative stores and one cooperative elevator in Nebraska since the business depression began in 1920 denotes the high character of these farmers' business enterprises. Contrast with these



figures, the recent reports of business failures in the United States for 1921. They numbered 19,625 with a total liability of 627,401,883. January of 1922 surpassed any month either in 1920 or 1921 in business failures with 2,723 reported. Who can say, from these figures, that Nebraska farmers are not more than holding their own in their cooperative enterprises? One of the chief safeguards for continued success in any business, and which is particularly applicable to farmers' enterprises of recent origin, is the building up of sufficient reserves to take care of the business under adverse conditions. The Farmers' Union is endeavoring to impress its members with this idea and to have them lay away a safe surplus or reserve in prosperous times instead of paying back all their profits in the form of patronage dividends. All big business firms do this and for that reason those that are on a sound basis are able to weather the storms of adversity by drawing on this reserve for their losses and deficits of any one year. In times of money stringency these reserves are the life-savers for any business and prevent it from being crippled or being forced to go to the wall. When farmers' cooperative companies, and also farmers as individuals, learn to apply this principle of reserves more generally, they will be in better condition to keep away from the rocks than they are at present." (Nebraska Farmer, Apr. 8.)

#### Cotton Consumption

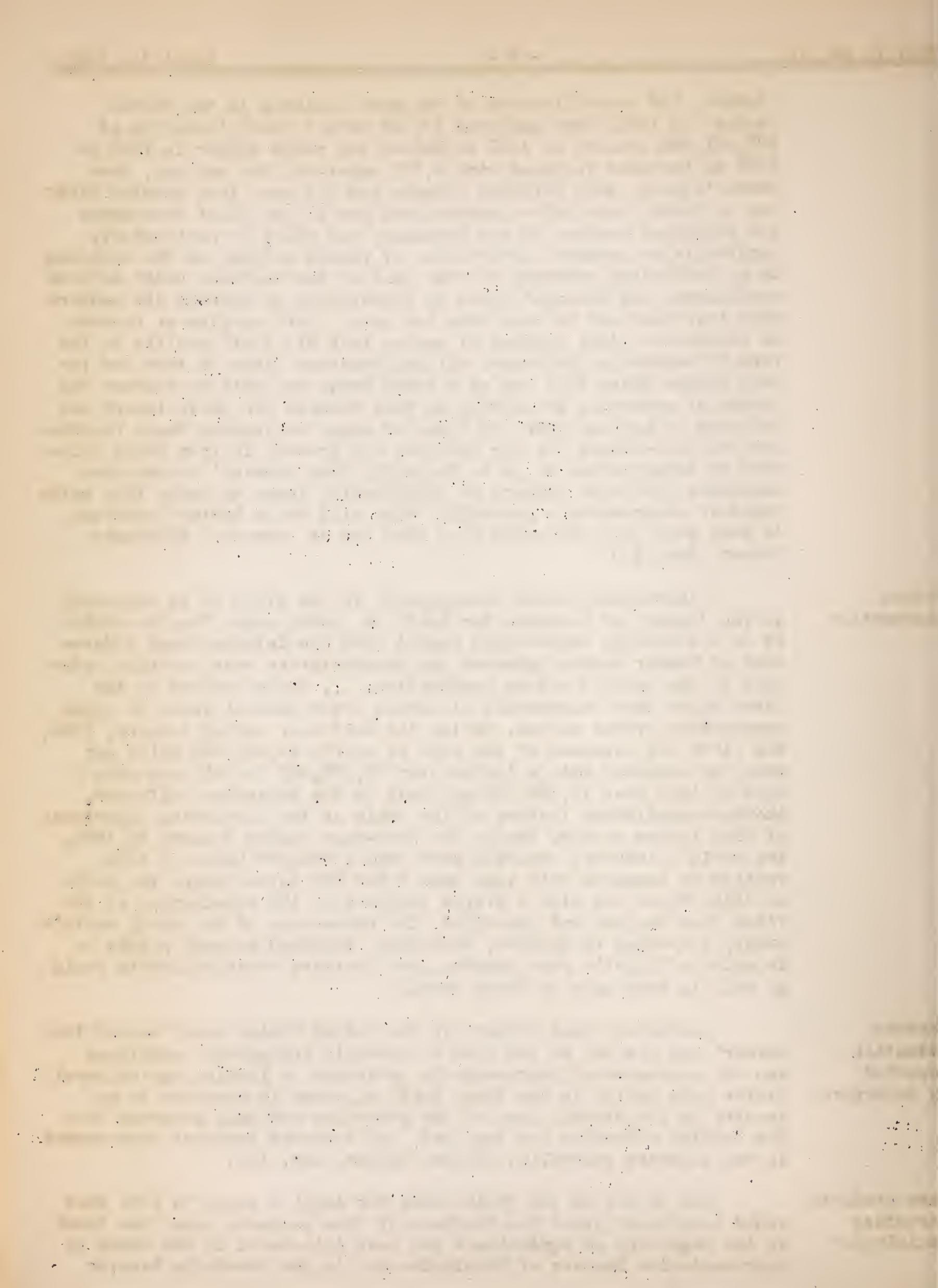
"Increasing Cotton Consumption" is the title of an editorial in The Journal of Commerce for April 10, which says: "On the whole it is a decidedly encouraging report that the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers made recently relative to the world's cotton consumption. ... It is evident in the first place that consumption of cotton after several years is again approaching prewar volume. During the half-year ending January, 1922, the fiber was consumed at the rate of nearly 19,000,000 bales per year, as compared with a little over 20,000,000 in 1913 and with a rate of less than 15,000,000 per year in the preceding half-year. Another significant feature of the table is the increasing importance of East Indian cotton. During the half-year ending January 31, 1922, the world's industry absorbed more than 2,000,000 bales of this variety as compared with less than 3,500,000 bales during the whole of 1913. There was also a slight increase in the consumption of the fiber from regions not specified. The percentage of the total world's supply furnished by America, therefore, declined several points -- in spite of Egypt's poor showing. Our southern restrictionists would do well to take note of these facts."

#### Farming Situation Reported by Governors

Conviction that farmers of the United States have "turned the corner" and are now on the road to normally prosperous conditions was the consensus of statements by governors of leading agricultural States made public in New York, April 9, given in response to an inquiry by E.A. Strout. Some of the governors not only asserted that the farming situation was improved, but forecast imminent improvement in the industry generally. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 10.)

#### Farm Products Marketing Legislation

Who is Who in the Grain Trade for April 5 says: "A bill that would completely place the handlers of farm products under the thumb of the Secretary of Agriculture has been introduced in the House by Representative Summers of Washington and in the Senate by Senator



McNary. ... H.R. 9952 does not seem to apply to handlers of grain. It is aimed at those who deal in 'domestic fruits, vegetables, edible nuts, bee products and other similar or related products,' but it is only the entering wedge. It would be but a short step to supplement it later with legislation that would include grain dealers. And then the Secretary of Agriculture would be in his glory. He would have the grain men completely at his mercy. No one could deal in grain without a permit from him and no dealer could obtain this permit until he had agreed to submit body and soul to the Government. He would be required to keep his accounts in the way prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture and these books must be open all the time to Government inspection. He must submit to trading rules formulated by the Government and he must place on his account sales 'the character and extent of the service which should be given, the range of charges deemed reasonable for specific kinds of service and such other details of business method or procedure as he may deem pertinent.' Further than this the dealer must submit to compulsory arbitration, not from 'his peers' but from Government underlings. It would be great. By the time this point had been reached there would be no more independent grain dealers. They would have thrown up the sponge and made way for the cooperative movement."

Federal Trade  
Commission and  
Grain Dealers

Who is Who in the Grain Trade for April 5 says: "The latest governmental agency to 'investigate' the Grain Dealers National Association is the Federal Trade Commission, which has just gone through the files in the Toledo headquarters. ... It would be interesting to know how the members of the Federal Trade Commission ever got it into their heads that the Grain Dealers National Association could possibly throw any light upon the 'margins between farm and export prices', or the 'profits or losses of the principal exporting firms and corporations.' The Grain Dealers National Association has not, and never has had, the slightest knowledge of grain prices except as these prices appear daily in the newspapers for the information of the general public. So far as the National Association is concerned there is but one law regulating the price of grain -- the law of supply and demand. The association has nothing to do with prices. It does not compile statistics. It is not interested, except indirectly, in the grain market. ... What we inveigh against is this constant espionage by the Government, this prying into private business by official meddlers."

Live-Stock  
Commissions

Live-stock commission men received less than two-thirds of one per cent commission for negotiating the sales of farmers' cattle, hogs and sheep during 1920, according to official figures compiled by the National Live-Stock Exchange at the request of the Joint Congressional Commission of Agriculture Inquiry. Statistics representing 54 per cent of all the business done on the twenty-eight markets where exchanges are maintained were obtained from 213 representative live-stock houses at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, South St. Paul, Sioux City, South St. Joseph, Detroit, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Buffalo and Indianapolis. The figures covered the transfer of 645,140 cars of live stock worth \$1,598,366,574. (Chicago dispatch to press of Apr. 10.)



## Potato Grades

Farm, Stock and Home for April 1 says in an editorial: "The Federal Department of Agriculture is proposing changes in the U.S. Grades of potatoes, such changes to be effective before the opening of the new crop season. Minnesota finds that there is a very general dissatisfaction on the part of growers and shippers with the present grades, and favor the proposed grades and especially grade No. 1 giving an increased tolerance of 10 per cent instead of 6 per cent. The present system does not meet with the approval of those informed as to market conditions and requirements."

## Section 3.

## MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

William Moore, of the State Department of North Carolina, will be in Washington April 11 and 12. Mr. Moore may be reached through the office of Dr. J. R. Mohler Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry,

## Section 4.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 10: Chicago wheat prices advanced on strength in foreign markets; higher exchange rates and wet, cool weather over entire wheat belt. Fair wheat export business reported in new crop winters via Montreal. Chicago May wheat higher at \$1.33 3/4; Chicago May corn higher at 59 5/8¢. Closing prices in Chicago cash markets: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.35; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.35; No. 2 mixed corn 58¢; No. 2 yellow corn 59¢; No. 3 white oats 38¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 45 1/2¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.35; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.30.

Chicago hog market fairly active, bulk of sales \$10.50 to \$10.95. Medium and good beef steers \$7.15 to \$8.75; butcher cows and heifers \$4.35 to \$8.00; Fat lambs \$11.25 to \$14.00.

Potato markets weaker. Florida Spaulding Rose, barrels, \$10 in Boston; \$7.50 to \$8.75 in other cities; \$6 f.o.b. shipping points. Maine Green Mountains in bulk, f.o.b., 95¢ to \$1.15 per 100 lbs. South Carolina and Alabama cabbage various varieties, 100 lb. crates, \$2 to \$4 in leading markets. Florida pointed cabbage 1 1/2 bu. hamper \$1.25 to \$1.75 in eastern cities. Texas yellow Bermuda onions standard crates \$5.00 to \$5.50 in eastern markets.

Butter markets closed firm with price tendency upward. Offerings all grades fairly well cleaned up. Cheese markets weaker at lower prices.

Demand for hay weakened by warm weather, prices firm at most markets on account of extremely light receipts. Feed markets dull; prices unchanged. Offerings of wheat and corn feeds continue liberal and slightly exceed demand. Cottonseed and linseed meal firm; demand light. Receipts and stocks good; movement fair.

Spot cotton prices decline 9 points, closing at 16.83¢ per lb. New York May futures down 17 points at 17.72¢. (Prepared by the Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Apr. 10	Apr. 8	Apr. 10, 1921
	20 Industrials	91.11	90.63	76.15
	20 R.R. Stocks	84.01	85.91	69.36
	(Wall St. Jour. Apr. 11.)			



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 10.

Section 1.

April 12, 1922.

### Tariff Legislation

From the Senate Finance Committee, Chairman McCumber April 11 reported the permanent tariff bill and gave notice that he would not call it up before April 20. Party leaders fixed 60 days as a conservative estimate of the time that will be required to pass the bill. Treasury experts estimated the average rates to be slightly higher, notably with respect to agricultural products, than the average rates in the Payne-Aldrich tariff act and that they will yield a revenue between \$330,000,000 and \$350,000,000. The basis of valuation is changed. Against the wishes of the House, the rates are to be levied upon foreign valuation, with provisions for flexibility, as requested in part by President Harding. (Press, Apr. 12.)

The Philadelphia Public Ledger to-day publishes an extensive summary of important rates in the tariff bill reported yesterday to the Senate, with comparisons with the Fordney bill and the Payne-Aldrich, the last Republican protective tariff act, and Underwood laws, wherever feasible.

### Agricultural

### Appropriation Bill

The Agricultural Appropriation bill was under consideration in the Senate as the unfinished business April 11, but no headway was made "because of political speeches," according to the press of to-day.

### Bird Refuge Bill

The House Committee on Agriculture April 11 ordered a favorable report on the Anthony game bird refuge public shooting grounds bill. (Press, Apr. 12.)

### Swift and Armour Granted Time to Sell Yards

Extension of time to March 3, 1923, in which Swift & Co. and Armour & Co. are given to dispose of their holdings in stockyards, market companies and stockyard-railroad terminals in compliance with the consent decree entered by the Government and the packers February 27, 1920, was granted April 11 by Justice Bailey, of the District of Columbia Supreme Court. A similar extension was granted recently to Morris & Co. and the Court explained that the time limit for the three concerns now will expire on the same date. (Press, Apr. 12.)

### Muscle Shoals

Col. W. J. Barden, of the Army Engineer Corps, April 11, told the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry it would require six years to complete the Muscle Shoals project, working economically. (Press, Apr. 12.)



## Section 2.

Agricultural  
Financing

The War Finance Corporation announces that from April 6, to April 8, 1922, inclusive, it approved 80 advances, aggregating \$2,616,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes in 26 States. During the week ending April 8, 1922, the War Finance Corporation approved a total of 135 advances, aggregating \$4,527,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes. (W.F.C. press statement, Apr.10.)

## Corn Acreage

"During the next two years we believe that the general trend of practically all farm product prices will be upward. When new crops are coming to market there may be several months at a time when the price will seem weak, but on the whole, farm product prices, and especially corn prices, will advance. Under the situation as it now exists, we believe it to be sound policy for our corn belt farmers to hold their corn for cost of production. By cost of production, we mean a price which will return the farmer at least 30 cents an hour for his labor, 15 cents an hour for horse labor, and at least 6 per cent on the prewar value of the land. This means that the average farmer should hold his corn for at least 60 cents a bushel on the farm. The most powerful interests in the United States seem to be definitely fighting for higher corn prices. They did not realize until last winter what a 'crimp' low corn prices could put in the general business of the United States. They now desire, as they have never desired before, to see the farmer prosperous. All the power of the speculative market will be thrown on the side of higher corn prices whenever there is the slightest excuse for an upward movement. If the farmers of the United States plant less than their usual acreage of corn this spring, and if the weather is somewhat unfavorable, we shall probably see a really sensational advance. The one thing which is handicapping the powerful interests who seem to want to put corn prices higher is the stocks, which are 30 per cent above normal, and the possibility that the farmers may have been led by the recent strengthening in corn prices to plant more than their customary acreage. Hold your corn for cost of production, and reduce your acreage sufficiently so that with ordinary weather in 1922 you will have your normal amount on hand by December of 1922. (Wallaces' Farmer, Apr. 7.)

## Food Prices

A decrease in the retail cost of food to the average family in March, as compared with February, was reported April 11 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. Prices of 43 food articles in 51 important cities were considered. Seventeen of these articles showed decreases ranging from less than five-tenths of 1 per cent, on butter and tea, to 34 per cent on strictly fresh butter; 21 articles increased from less than five-tenths of 1 per cent on cheese to 11 per cent on oranges, and six articles remained unchanged. During the year March 15, 1921, to March 15, 1922, the bureau added, the average decrease in the retail prices of these foods was 11 per cent, 38 articles declining and 8 increasing. In the nine-year period ended March 15, the average of increase was placed at 43 per cent. (Dept. of Labor press statement, Apr. 11.)

Grain Growers  
Add Members

Seven states reported 864 grain producers as having affiliated with the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., during the past six day period, increasing membership to 56,149 growers. (U.S.G.G., Inc., press statement, Apr.9.)



Grain  
Marketing

The National Stockman and Farmer for April 8 says in an editorial entitled "How Can It Proceed?": "In spite of the big deficit the recently elected officers of U.S. Grain Growers, Inc., say that they will go forward to success in the marketing of grain. It is hard for one unacquainted with the mysteries of high finance to see how they can go ahead. If they do, more capital must be provided. It is understood that sale of stocks in a sales agency is relied on to provide the necessary capital. Will the farmers of the country put more money into the hands of a corporation to which they have already contributed over \$625,000 without visible results except deficit and dissension? It does not seem likely that they will. Even if this capital were provided the grain consigned to the corporation would have to pay the deficit already incurred as well as current operating and capital costs, which would preclude economical marketing. It is doubtful whether producers would consign grain under such circumstances. Though their contracts apparently bind them to consign grain perhaps it would cost more than the contracts are worth to enforce them. As a nation-wide marketing agency U.S. Grain Growers is apparently a failure, and that before it has handled any grain."

## Meat Marketing

"Despite the marked opposition of the banks, shipping companies and meat distributing houses, the administrative end of the New Zealand meat export control bill, which takes the form of eight members, is being rapidly established, according to correspondence from Wellington. The passage of the bill by the Dominion Parliament recently automatically provided that the board personnel include five members selected by sheep and cattle farmers, two selected by the Government (both of whom may be farmers), and one by merchants handling the business of the farmers. The Government appointees are assumed to represent the packing companies, workers' unions and other interests. The object of the so-called 'pool' is to control the market, using New Zealand lamb as the brake. Free and unrestricted export will be prohibited. All meat must go into the 'pool' from the moment it enters the slaughterhouse on the hoof until it is distributed in the various markets. All meat will be graded and inspected by the Government, which will advance 75 per cent of the market price at time of shipment." (Butchers' Advocate, Apr. 5.)

## Potash Tariff

The Pennsylvania Farmer for April 8 says: "The latest reports are that the Senate Finance Committee will report a tariff bill which provides for import duty of about \$25 per ton on imported potash. In spite of the criticism and opposition of the farmers and their representatives, it seems as if a few men owning experimental potash plants in this country have more influence than the millions of farmers. The inconsistency of unjustly and excessively taxing the whole people for the benefit of a handful of men who invested a few million dollars in war emergency plants, does not seem to weigh with the Finance Committee. Again we repeat that the sensible thing to do, if the manufacture of potash is to be encouraged in this country, is to pay manufacturers a subsidy equal to the tariff asked. By this method the people would pay the \$25 on only about thirty to forty thousand tons per year, instead of paying it on the 200,000 tons annually used by farmers -- an evident saving of \$4,000,000 a year."



Prices and  
Legislation

"People who are saying that with advancing prices further legislation to help farmers will be unnecessary, are taking a very shallow view of the situation. A rise of a few cents a bushel on grains and per pound on hogs and cattle, especially as most of the grain is in hands of middlemen, does not change fundamental conditions at all. We still have the problems of farm credit, rising taxes, uncontrolled marketing and production to deal with. A higher level of prices is of course welcome and we all hope the level will hold through the marketing of the next crop. The farmers and everybody else need the money, but the main question is to increase the amount of the farmers' profits, something that a high price level will not necessarily do, as was shown during the period of war prices. If experience is any teacher at all, farmers will use their next period of prosperity to fortifying themselves against a repetition of what they have just had." (Farm, Stock & Home, Apr. 1.)

Wheat

"Political and economic conditions have thus far prevailed against the statistical position of both wheat and cotton. But if the May condition of wheat shows a large abandonment the world outlook must have an upward effect upon prices. Our domestic visible supply remains large in comparison with other years. Unless there is a substantial decrease in that, the force of crop conditions will be felt more strongly in the more distant months than in the May futures. But even with a large visible supply, a nervous market may be expected until the fate of the crop is definitely known." (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 11.)

### Section 3.

Department of  
Agriculture

Senator Arthur Capper says in Kansas Farmer and Mail and Breeze for April 8: "I am reluctantly compelled to believe that a timber shortage from which there will be no escape will afflict the United States in about 25 years. But long before that time arrives we shall begin to suffer from it exceedingly. ... Despite all danger signs, we are going right along using about 300 board feet of lumber per capita a year as if we had an inexhaustible supply. ... What makes these unpleasant, if not ominous, truths of special moment just now are the bills before Congress which threaten the national forest policy and the whole conservation program. One bill provides for transferring the Forest Service from the Department of Agriculture -- where Roosevelt put it -- into the hands of the Interior Department. This would make Secretary Fall the administrator of 156 million acres of rich mineral and timber lands with large powers over their disposition. The other bill turns over the Alaskan forests, fisheries, game and waterpower to a commission from which there can be no appeal, and whose members can only be removed by the President for malfeasance in office. Ninety-eight per cent of the land in Alaska is rational property. Alaska seems to be the prize most sought after. I do not question the good intentions of Secretary Fall, who would 'open up' Alaska and who would for a time be in virtual charge of our now priceless timber lands, then be followed by various successors who might not always guard the best interests of the Nation. That is why I am opposed to such a system. It makes it too easy, it seems to me, for exploiters to creep in. Here in Washington there is a feeling that big interests are trying to take the forests away from the Department of Agriculture. ..."



Section 4.  
MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

W. T. Derickson, Chief of the recently established Division of Markets of Delaware, is spending a few days at the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates to acquaint himself with marketing methods and practices observed by that bureau. He may be reached through the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates.

W. E. Skinner, of Chicago, Secretary-Manager of the National Dairy Association, will arrive in Washington on Friday and may be reached through the World's Dairy Congress Association, 426 Star Building.

Section 5.  
MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Farm Products      Apr. 11: Chicago wheat prices declined. Unfavorable weather checked new selling, but did not encourage buying. Chicago May wheat lower at \$1.31 3/4; Chicago May corn unchanged at 59 5/8. Closing prices in Chicago cash markets: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.33; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.33; No. 2 mixed corn 58¢; No. 2 yellow corn 59¢; No. 3 white oats 38¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 46¢; No. 1 dark winter wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.36; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.22.

Chicago hog prices fairly active. Prices down 5 to 15¢; bulk of sales \$10.40 to \$10.80. Medium and good beef steers steady at \$7.15 to \$8.70. Butcher cows and heifers steady at \$4.35 to \$8.00. Fat lambs steady at \$11.25 to \$14.50.

Little change in potato prices at western and southern shipping points, but the market tone is weak. New Jersey and Delaware sweet potatoes steady at \$2.25 to \$2.50 per bushel hamper. South Carolina head lettuce \$2.50 to \$3.00 per crate. South Carolina cabbage \$3.25 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs. in New York.

Spot cotton unchanged at 16.82¢ per lb. New York May futures up 1 point at 17.73¢. (Prepared by the Bur. Mkts, & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Apr. 11	Apr. 10	Apr. 11, 1921
	20 industrials	91.91	91.11	76.28
	20 R. R. Stocks	84.11	84.01	69.79
(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 12.)				



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. V, no. 11.

Section 1.

April 13, 1922.

Federal Grain Grades      A St. Paul dispatch to the Philadelphia Public Ledger to-day says: "State officials and farmers who have been leading the contest for a change in Federal grain grades are talking of carrying their case to Congress. Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has declined to hold a hearing on the question in the Twin Cities as requested by the Minnesota men who assert the Federal wheat grades discriminate against spring-wheat farmers."

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Barberry Bush  
Legislation

Senators from agricultural states April 12 debated the situation with reference to the barberry bush, which is said to propagate wheat rust. At the insistence of Chairman Norris of the Senate agricultural committee, the appropriation to eradicate the bush was increased from \$200,000 to \$500,000. (Press, Apr. 13.)

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Gases in Pest  
Destruction

Brigadier General Fries, Chief of the Chemical Warfare Service, April 12 explained to the Senate Appropriations Committee how "gophers, jack rabbits, boll weevil, crows, black-birds, rust in wheat, rats and other pests" were being dealt with through the use of poison gas, mustard gas and other gases developed during the war. (Press, Apr. 13.)

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Civil Service

Representative Moore of Virginia declared in the House April 12 that the "ominous incident" when thirty officials at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were summarily dismissed threatens to "break down the civil service system and place the business of the Government where it once was, in the hands of reckless and unscrupulous spoilsme," Mr. Moore emphasized the fact that the "main issue raised is whether spoils politicians are to have their way and work their will at the expense of the people of the country, who desire the best Government that can be provided." (Press, Apr. 13.)

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Genoa Conference

The necessity of bringing about equilibrium in national budgets, if the European situation is to be stabilized, formed the most important subject of discussion at the meeting at Genoa of the subcommission on finance, at which Sir Robert Stevenson-Horne, the chairman, proposed an international conference of the great banks issuing currency. Sir Robert especially recommended that American Federal Reserve banks should join in the conference. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 13.)

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## Section 2.

Grain Grades 1. "A conference of wheat 'specialists' and inspectors was held last week in Washington to discuss the request to change the wheat grades for the current year. The only demand for a change in the official grades comes from the Northwest -- specifically from Mr. Jacobson, head of the Minnesota Railroad and Warehouse Commission. North Dakota farmers second Mr. Jacobson, of course. Wheat is their chief crop; and they have been selling dockage so long their fields have become foul with weeds and now they hope to get paid for worthless seeds by sophisticating the wheat grades. They think, and have been told, that the miller will not know the difference in grade quality if only the verbiage of the rule shall make it appear that grade quality is better than it really is. Only a professional office seeker could entertain such a simple minded idea. In the Southwest there is great complaint of the vagaries of the inspection. But there is no demand there that the standard grade be lowered. All that country grain buyers there ask is that the grading be conducted on a commercial basis; that it shall be reasonably uniform; that reinspection shall not be made for the settling basis weeks or months after the first inspection; and that arbitrary discounts shall not be exacted by buyers which are not based on actual value differences. This acute situation has obtained for a long time, and has been very costly to shippers.

"The Department of Agriculture has usurped the place of inspection umpire of contracts hitherto provided by the trade itself. It has arrogated to itself a quality of infallibility for the *deus ex machina* of the grain trade which it was said did not and could not exist if the trade were allowed to settle their own differences as to quality in their own way. It is up to the department's inspectors to make good their putative superiority and put an end to the complaints as to their work, if they can." (Price Current-Grain Reporter, Apr. 5.)

2. The Farmer (St. Paul) for April 8 says: "The Farmer has never maintained that the Federal grain grades were perfect. Neither did we ever criticize the old system of grain grades so efficiently applied by the Minnesota Grain Inspection Department. Believing that Federal grades were desirable and inevitable, we supported these grades when Congress passed the law. We have contended that the Secretary of Agriculture, who must enforce the law, would be bound to adopt such regulations as would be absolutely fair to the grower because he has no other interests to serve. We have resented the bullying tactics that have been used to force both the former and the present Secretary to change the grades without sufficient protests from the actual growers. We heartily approve of the new regulations which have been announced, because these regulations are based on the careful investigation of men who have the interests of the grain grower at heart. We believe furthermore that the final decision of Secretary Wallace will be found to be both fair and taken from the standpoint of the best interests of the actual farmer. It is to be hoped that the critics of the Federal grain grades will now give the public a rest."



Sugar Beet Contract in Utah. Utah Farmer for April 1 says: "It is a great relief to all to have the sugar beet contract for 1922 finally agreed upon by the companies and the committee of the State Farm Bureau. The negotiations have continued over a prolonged period, and have been characterized by what might be called 'ultimatum diplomacy.' That is, each side made proposals and counter-proposals in its turn, until a deadlock was finally reached. This deadlock was not broken until a third party interceded and brought the two contestants to a compromise agreement. The agreement itself is based upon the principle of profit-sharing, the producer to receive 46 1/2 per cent of the price of the sugar, and the manufacturer to receive 53 1/2 per cent. It is not radically different from the contract of last year, except that the ratio on the lower prices of sugar -- that is, from \$4 to \$8 a hundred -- is more favorable to the sugar beet grower than was the case last year. On the other hand, the 1921 contract provided for a \$5.50 minimum guarantee. The 1921 contract differs from this year's contract also in that it was based upon a fifty-fifty division of the profits above \$8 sugar. It is to be hoped that the farmers will plant a normal acreage this year, in order that the industry may have a full opportunity to revive from the devastating depression into which it was thrown at the close of the war."

## Tariff Bill

1. In an editorial on the tariff bill, The Philadelphia Public Ledger to-day says: "This tariff will need a deal of debating. There are some strikingly new features in the measure. Middle western hands have been busier with this bill than with any other ever offered. 'Farm bloc' hoofprints are all over it. The farmer has been given about everything he could think of in the way of tariff help. No more will frozen muttons from New Zealand, beef from Melbourne or the Argentine, eggs from Hongkong, butter from Copenhagen or soy-bean oil from Japan play hob with his markets and vex his soul. Argentine corn and hides will trouble him no more. The farmer is walled in back of a tariff that should satisfy most of the ardent protectionists and place the farm on the long list of favored industries. Mid-West corn grower and Eastern manufacturer have joined hands across the Alleghenies. One of the strongest points in the bill as reported is the maximum-minimum provision, which will make of the Tariff Commission the real rate fixer within the definite limitations provided by the measure. This is the greatest single step toward making the tariff a workable and adjustable machine, rather than a plaything for politicians, that has been taken in years."

2. The New York Times to-day says editorially: "There is no pretense that it is a measure carefully studied to meet our needs, whether domestic or international, nor does any one claim that it can be thought of as a finality; but the wild horses of the agricultural bloc have run away with the Republican Party, and the Senate Tariff bill is the result. It is full of labyrinthian intricacies. The different schedules are certain to be under fire in the Senate for a long time to come. But two or three sections of the bill have been already received with something like consternation even by devout Republicans. There are, for example, the duties designed to increase the cost of food. The agricultural bloc has exacted the



uttermost farthing. Farmers know well to-day that some of the protective duties on agricultural products are pure humbug. The rates on wheat and corn have long been a tariff joke, at the expense of the innocent farmer. But it is no joke when taxes are levied on beef and mutton and poultry and eggs and potatoes. The effect, if not the intent, of all these tariff duties is to increase the cost of living and to put real money into the farmers' pockets. The Finance Committee of the Senate long resisted these extreme demands, but needs must when the agricultural bloc drives, and the anticipatory boast of the farmer-Senators that the bill would contain agricultural duties higher and more general than any ever known before is justified by the measure as reported to the Senate. After raising the price of food, the bill also increases the cost of clothing. This is apparent in the woolen schedules. ... Again it is a case of the agricultural bloc demanding its pound of flesh. Our wool growers wish not only to be protected on their product, but to lay almost prohibitive duties on classes of wool not grown in this country.... The aim is plain. It is to force woolen manufacturers to give up importing wool of this kind and to use more of the American product. What will be the consequence? ... "

3. An editorial in the Journal of Commerce for April 13 says: "It is not so crude and vicious a bill as the Fordney proposal. Work has been devoted to it, and there has been an effort to reconcile conflicting claims without the use of too 'raw' a method of placating the tariff protected interests. ... On the other hand, the new bill vests in the President extraordinary and extravagant powers in changing rates, retaliating against foreign countries that are disposed to tax our products heavily, and in altering classifications and valuations of goods. The bill apparently seeks to use both the foreign and at times the American system of valuing imported goods. It works between the devil and the deep sea endeavoring to placate everyone and succeeding nowhere. The bill makes extreme concessions to the agricultural bloc -- as it must no doubt to insure passage -- and is from every standpoint a political measure in the worst sense of that term. It will be a terrible burden upon the Nation beside being very ill adapted to the time and conditions which the country must to-day face."

#### Taxation

The British Treasury has estimated the amount of the taxation revenue in Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and the United States during the current fiscal year and also the average of taxation per head in these countries. Reduced to a dollar basis at current exchange the taxation per head would approximate the following comparisons: United Kingdom, 1921-22, \$128.90; Germany, 1921-22, \$3.48; France, 1922, \$51.69; Italy, 1921-22, \$13.93; United States, 1921-22, \$32.10. (Press Statement, Bankers Trust Co., N.Y., Apr. 11.)

#### Wool Prices

Taking into account last week's auction sales of wool in England and Australasia, the net result shows a firmness in prices due to competitive demand. But it must be remembered that there is no such thing as an open market for British Colonial wools, these being all doled out in quantities which can be absorbed. The implied guarantee against offering more than can be handled by the trade is one of the factors helping to keep up prices. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 9.)



## Section 3,

Department of Agriculture

"The Barberry Bush and the Federal Treasury" is the title of an editorial in The Commercial and Financial Chronicle for April 8 which, commenting upon the request of the Bureau of Plant Industry for a fund for the eradication of the barberry, says: "Within recent years, however, we have seen a gradual drift toward Federal aid, usually on the basis of cooperation from the local government. This aid now covers many subjects and includes some of those relating to the intimacies of household duties and family life. It is not Federal control -- not directly. It is putting the Federal Treasury back of these things upon the theory that the vast national resources can be used to render more effective service than can those of the local governments. The inevitable result of the continuance of this policy will be the gradual weakening of the State governments. The people will look to Washington for every form of Government service. Upon such a theory of Government there is no limit to the amount of money which may be carried in the Federal budget."

## Section 4.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Farm Products

Apr. 12: Chicago wheat prices higher early with Liverpool, but buying gave out and reaction followed. Chicago May wheat higher at \$1.31; Chicago May corn higher at 59 1/4¢. Cash market inactive, closing prices in Chicago market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.32; No. 2 mixed corn 58¢; No. 3 white oats 37¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 45¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.34 1/2; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.20.

Chicago hog prices down 10 to 15¢, bulk of sales \$10.30 to \$10.75. Beef steers active, 15 to 25¢ higher, medium and good grades \$7.30 to \$8.75. Butcher cows and heifers strong to 15¢ higher at \$4.35 to \$8.25. Fat sheep and lambs generally steady, fat lambs \$11.25 to \$14.50.

Potato markets steady. Florida Spaulding Rose \$7.25 to \$9 per bbl. in leading markets. Bulk Maine Green Mountains weaker at \$0.95 per 100 lbs. Florida celery slightly weaker. Louisiana Klondike strawberries weak in eastern markets at 10¢ to 18¢ per pint. Florida Bermuda onions \$5 to \$5.75 per standard crate in eastern cities.

Hay market continues firm on light receipts. Demand good but mostly local. Urgent shipping demand at Minneapolis. Millfeeds quiet, demand indifferent. Owners showing no disposition to crowd feed on market. Stocks and receipts generally good.

Butter markets firm with price tendency upward. Cheese markets weak although trading is showing signs of more activity. Recent declines appear to be seasonal.

Spot cotton down 3 points closing at 16.79¢ per lb. New York May futures down 7 points at 17.66¢. (Prepared by Bur. of Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average Closing Price	Apr. 12	Apr. 11	Apr. 12, 1921
20 Industrials	91.77	91.91	75.93
20 R.R. Stocks	83.08	83.61	68.88

(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 13.)



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 12.

Section 1.

April 14, 1922.

**Agricultural Appropriation Bill** The Agricultural Appropriation bill was passed by the Senate April 13 after it had reversed itself and restored the free seeds item for another year. The bill carries approximately \$37,250,000 or about a million and a half more than was passed by the House. Among the principal changes made in the measure by the Senate were increases of \$500,000 to the million dollar appropriation for agricultural extension work through farm agents; \$525,000 to the \$50,000 appropriation for the purchase of additional forest reserves in the Appalachian district, and \$300,000 to the \$200,000 fund for eradicating the barberry bush, the wheat rust pest. An addition of \$75,000 was made to the appropriation of \$175,000 for fighting the white pine blisterrust and \$20,000 was provided for the extension of the leased wire market service into Texas, which expects to use the service in connection with radio broadcasting, according to Senator Sheppard, of that State, who sought the increase. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 14.)

**Agricultural Bloc Demands Relief**

The farm bloc was called into action again April 13 by Senator Capper. The program of legislation laid down by Mr. Capper in a formal speech to the Senate contemplates the following: Liberal appropriations to the Department of Agriculture; reduction in freight rates; restoration to States of "much of the power taken away from them by an unwarrantable interpretation of the Transportation Act by the Interstate Commerce Commission;" cheap fertilizer through resumption of the Government's operation of the Muscle Shoals plant; passage of the Capper-French truth-in-fabric bill "to compel makers of clothing to brand their goods so that the buyer will know the amount of pure wool and the amount of shoddy in it;" credit reform so that agriculture will not be "at the mercy of those who control credit;" extension of the operation of the War Finance Corporation to July 1, 1923; action on the bill to place a "dirt farmer" on the Federal Reserve Board now pending in the House. The enunciation of that program by Mr. Capper followed an explanation of the present plight of the farmer. He urged the formulation of a national agricultural policy. (Press, Apr. 14.)

**Tariff Bill Assailed**

Democratic attack on the tariff bill was opened April 13 by Senator Simmons, ranking Democratic member of the committee, who in a statement characterized the measure reported as "the most un-American bill ever framed" and predicted it would "penalize our export business," which in the end "will mean curtailment of production and increased unemployment on the farms, in the mine and in the factory." (Press, Apr. 14.)



## Section 2.

Agricultural  
Situation

"Present agricultural outlook is very much brighter than a few months ago and, generally speaking, farmers are in a distinctly better frame of mind. Rising farm prices have increased confidence and stimulated the farm spirit. The big need of farmers, of course, is ready cash. Men out of debt are in an easy position, but those with unpaid obligations are not so favorably situated. There is still some dissatisfaction and resentment among farmers, but confidence is growing and the general sentiment is apparently more hopeful than for the past year and a half. The crops of 1922 will be produced on a new cost basis, which will assist in restoring a more even balance between prices of farm products and prices of manufactured goods. The fact that the relation of these prices has been very much out of harmony during the past season has been largely responsible for the diminution of farm buying power." (Seed World, Apr. 7.)

Cooperative  
Marketing

1. Basing an editorial on the address of the late G. Harold Powell before the National Agricultural Conference, The Progressive Farmer for April 8 says: "When the financial world was turned topsy-turvy, the one system of marketing to stand up under the strain was the cooperative system. Does it look as if the prevailing marketing system, -- the one that failed us in this crisis -- is adequate? Does the fact that so many years were required to build it up, make it any more effective? If so, why did it break down so completely at a time when the cooperative system succeeded so well? Note Mr. Powell's analysis of the chaotic conditions for the past year or more, -- 'Most important of all, it is the result of the unpreparedness of the American farmer to handle through collective action the problems which he, as an individual, has been powerless to solve or even to influence.' Can you deny the truth of this statement? Admitting its truth even in part, isn't it a scathing denunciation of an inadequate system of marketing farm products? Note that the farmer, 'as an individual, has been powerless to solve or even to influence,' problems that vitally affected his welfare. Yet the organized farmers of California received prices that more than returned the cost of production. ... This is just what Southern growers are preparing to do with cotton, hay, sweet potatoes, and numerous other crops. Southern farmers are determined to decrease the 'unnecessary credit,' for the production and 'orderly distribution' of their products. Southern farmers are awake to the fact that the old system is faulty and that the cooperative system must be developed."

2. "Big business as such has no terror for the farmer. As a matter of fact, it never has had. He has denounced faithlessness and crookedness in big business and little business as well, and always will. But he sees in the application of sound big business principles a measure of relief that eventually will lift agriculture to a permanently higher level. Setting his house in order for big business has been a difficult task. For two years the marketing bill legalizing cooperative marketing hung fire in Congress, and had it not been for the concerted and determined drive of the congressmen and senators representing the agricultural districts in the Farm Bloc,



it would still be accumulating dust in some pigeon hole. But it is a law now, thanks to the energies of our agricultural representatives, and the farmers are at perfect liberty to band themselves together and sell their products in a cooperative way. This does not mean that they are free to exploit the consumer. The bill provides the necessary machinery for handling those who would take advantage of the law to create monopolies in restraint of trade or that would abuse the general public. If perchance any bunch of farmers engage in any unjust practice the Secretary of Agriculture has it within his power to call them to account. However, the law legalizing cooperative effort is now on our national statute books, and there is every reason to expect cooperative marketing to grow by leaps and bounds. It will not be subjected to the harassing tactics of the enemies of cooperative marketing so troublesome in the past."

(Southern Ruralist, Apr. 15.)

## Cotton

Almost 2,000,000 fewer cotton spindles were operated during March than in February although cotton consumption for March was about 46,000 bales more than in February, the monthly cotton report of the Bureau of the Census issued yesterday, disclosed. Of the increase for the month 34,000 bales were consumed in cotton-growing States where consumption was the largest of any month since the first quarter of 1917, and amounted to 65 per cent of the total cotton used in the country during March. The large decrease in active spindles reflects conditions in the spinning mills of New England, in the opinion of officials here, who believe if conditions had been normal there March would have shown consumption approaching record proportions. (Press, Apr. 14.)

## Foreign Trade

"The question of a possible danger of American packers losing Continental markets was raised by a recent letter of a staff correspondent of The National Provisioner. The reason for any such danger, the correspondent states, is that American packers have not kept pace with others, notably some English concerns, in their methods of distribution. Two things were pointed out that it is contended have weight in this connection. One was that to hold a foreign market it is necessary to study it so that the product will suit the foreign taste and requirements. The other point stressed was the necessity for employing natives of the country where trade is sought in order to keep in close touch with all phases of the situation, and because natives could advise as to the right sales policy to pursue to avoid loss and increase volume of business. By paying attention to these two matters it is claimed one British firm for example, has had a very great success in Germany recently. ... Whether there will be any vital change in the relation of the United States to Europe in the matter of meat supplies for a long time is a question, but it is worth considering. Producers and their representatives in public office are insisting that there should be a foreign outlet for their surplus. Their insistence on this point is not likely to diminish under existing market conditions."

(The National Provisioner, Apr. 8.)



Genoa  
Conference

The Associated Press reports from Genoa to the press of to-day: "The extremely complicated nature of the technical problems connected with the economic reconstruction of Europe is shown by the fact that even the keenest of the economic and financial experts here admit that they are hard put in their efforts to see the light. ... Frank A. Vanderlip, New York banker, is welcomed by the European delegates and experts on account of his practical experience in finance, and he confers daily with them. C.W. Barron, New York financier, also is here as an American expert, studying the situation."

The Associated Press also reports from Genoa to the press of to-day: "The 'Big Four,' Lloyd George, Barthou, Schanzer and Jaspar, have decided at a meeting to present a 'united front' when the Soviet submits its counter-propositions for the restoration of Russia. This action is understood to imply formal acceptance by the four powers of the London expert's report as a basis for the treatment of the Russian problem."

Packers and  
Stockyards  
Act

"There is a clear issue to be decided in the case of the Chicago commission men who are contesting the constitutionality of the Federal Packers and Stockyards Act. The Federal Government holds that it has authority over the commission men at terminal live-stock markets by virtue of its jurisdiction over interstate commerce. It declares that the stockyards are a part of interstate commerce as terminals of transportation systems between states and as a consequence men doing business there are therefore engaged in interstate commerce. On the other hand, the commission men contend that their business is not a part of interstate commerce, ... In this case it does not matter what the individual opinion may be. But it does matter a great deal what the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States is to be. If the court decides according to precedent it will be in favor of the contention of the commission men. But times have changed, and as there is a possibility of a new precedent, the forthcoming decision is looked forward to with great interest." (The National Provisioner, Apr. 8.)

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Section 3.Department of  
Agriculture

"What the Forest Service Does" is the title of an editorial in The Outlook for April 12, which says: "Not long ago, in commenting on the proposal to place the Forest Service, now a part of the Department of Agriculture, under the control of the Department of the Interior, The Outlook pointed out editorially that it is to the Forest Service, established about 15 years ago under the Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt, that this country owes the radical reformation of a most discreditable system of wasteful and destructive treatment of American forests. It has been under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture that this change has taken place. ... The transfer to the Interior Department, now proposed, is based largely on the fact that the forests owned by the Government are on public lands and that other public lands are in the care of the Interior Department. The argument seems to us specious, and our view is held, we believe, by the experts and specialists who know what the Forest Service has done and is doing under the present arrangement. One result of our comment on forestry matters has been to bring us copies of valuable letters that have passed between Mr. G.N. Haugen,



the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture of the lower house; Colonel Greeley, the present Forester (that is, Chief of the Forest Service); and Mr. J.W. McKay, a member of the largest firm of logging operators in Alaska." After reviewing this correspondence in detail the editorial concludes: "The correspondence makes a favorable impression and goes far to confirm our opinion previously expressed that the Forest Service is in good hands and that it ought not to be tossed about from department to department without extremely strong evidence that such a course is demanded by the public interest.

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#### Section 4.

##### MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

A meeting of the General Program Committee of the World's Dairy Congress Association will be held on April 15 in the Dairy Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry. The purpose of this meeting is to arrange the program for the World's Dairy Congress to be held in this country in 1923. Those expected to be present at tomorrow's meeting include: L.A. Rogers, In Charge Dairy Research Laboratories, Dairy Division, chairman of General Committee; O.F. Hunziker, Blue Valley Creamery Co., Chicago, chairman of sub-committees; Dr. H.C. Sherman, Department of Chemistry, Columbia University, New York; Hon. Fred Rasmussen, State Secretary of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa.; Prof. C.H. Eckles, Dairy Department, University of Minnesota.

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#### Section 5.

##### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

###### Farm Products

Apr. 13: Despite pressure wheat prices advanced sharply at close. Chicago May wheat higher at \$1.34; Chicago May corn higher at 60¢. Seaboard reported export sales around million bushels new crop and half million old wheat. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.35; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.34; No. 2 mixed corn 59¢; No. 3 white oats 37 1/2¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa about 46¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.33 1/2; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.20.

Chicago hog prices down 15 to 25¢, bulk of sales \$10.15 to \$10.60. Beef steers up 10 to 25¢, medium and good grades \$7.50 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers up 10 to 15¢ at \$4.35 to \$8.40. Fat lambs down 25 to 50¢ at \$11 to \$14.

Potato markets weak. Florida Spaulding Rose \$7 to \$7.50 per bbl. in New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and Chicago; weak in producing sections at \$5 to \$5.25. Celery dull in city markets. South Carolina pointed cabbage \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lbs. in city markets.

Hay market continues firm on light receipts. Demand good but mostly local. Millfeeds quiet with demand indifferent. Stocks and receipts generally good.

Butter markets firm under active demand which is rapidly cleaning up current supplies. Cheese markets weak.

Spot cotton down 7 points closing at 16.72¢ per lb. New York May futures down 6 points at 17.60¢. (Prepared by Bur. of Mkts. & Crop Est.)

###### Industrials and Railroads

Average Closing Price	Apr. 13	Apr. 12	Apr. 13, 1921
20 Industrials	92.48	91.77	75.06
20 R.R. Stocks	83.46	83.08	
(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 14.)			



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. V, no. 13.

Section 1.

April 15, 1922.

Tariff Legislation

President Harding, it was said at the White House April 14, is of the opinion that Tariff legislation should have precedence in the Senate over the soldiers' bonus. Under present plans the tariff will be taken up in the Senate April 20. (Press, Apr. 15.)

The Tariff Bill

The New York Times to-day says: "Discord is showing in the Republican ranks and among members of the Senate farm bloc over some features of the tariff bill. Opposition to certain provisions seems likely to be so strong when the Senate takes up the measure as to cause a break in the 'bloc.' The majority leaders thought that differences had been avoided when concessions were made to the bloc by the raising of duties on farm products over the rates in the House bill. ... A lively assault on the Senate bill was made April 14 by Benjamin C. Marsh, managing director of the Farmers' National Council, who bluntly styled the measure 'the worst of the many gold bricks handed farmers by the present administration.' "

Free Seeds Item

"Free Seeds" is the title of an editorial in The Philadelphia Ledger to-day, which says in part: "Up to and until about the time the pussy willows bloomed and the maple buds swelled, it looked as though one of the most ancient and time-honored little grafts of the congressmen of these United States was endangered. Apparently the 'free-seed graft' hadn't a friend on earth. It had looked that way many, many times before. This year, however, when Secretary of Agriculture Wallace asked Congress for funds needed in his department, right joyfully did he leave 'free seeds' off the list. Seedless the bill went through the House Appropriations Committee. Then when it came before the House, some sterling husbandman, thumbs calloused by contact with his vest armholes, rose up and wrote \$360,000 worth of 'free seeds' into the bill and the House approved. An unfeeling Senate committee ... again eliminated the measure. On the Senate floor some other sterling son of the fields political brought it up and it was beaten, 29 to 24. Naturally, Washington had a right to be amazed. Seemingly the puissant Senate had made good its biennial threat. Not so. Lo and behold, the Senate reconsidered and tenderly and soothingly tucked it all back into the measure, 31 votes to 30! ... But who wants them? The embattled farmers of the 'farm bloc' were not ordered to get them. The American Farm Bureau, that made the 'bloc' and in whose hands it is as warm putty, for months has been referring to the whole business as 'that free-seed graft.' Farmers grin when you mention 'free seeds.' ... Secretary Wallace tried to ignore them and is doubtless considering mournfully the many things that \$360,000 might have done. Who then does want them and plant them? That's easy. Congressmen want them and Congressmen plant them in those political furrows that are surrounded by their political fences. ..."



## Section 2.

## Agricultural Credit

"A group of farmers in southern Wisconsin met recently to determine whether it would be to their interests to organize a farm loan association. A few desired to borrow money for the purpose of draining land, others to pay off notes which were bearing 6 per cent interest, and still others to make some minor improvements about their premises. The majority of the men were not in need of money, but came at the solicitation of those who needed some ready cash. After surveying the financial standing of those who desired money it was found that none could meet the requirements provided by the Federal Farm Loan Law. Inquiry was made as to what rate of interest was being paid by these farmers. It was found that 6 per cent was the highest rate and that the most of them had borrowed money for 5 per cent. Upon inquiry it was found that even this year loans have been made on farms bearing an interest rate of only 4 1/2 per cent. Banks are charging 6 and 7 per cent in most instances but money borrowed from retired farmers or others knowing the security of land is being loaned in southern Wisconsin for as low as 4 1/2 per cent and very little for more than 5 1/2 per cent. ... There needs to be developed a farm credit which will meet the necessity of every phase of farming." (Hoard's Dairyman, Apr. 7.)

## Agricultural Data of Congressional Commission

"The Congressional Joint Commission of Agricultural Inquiry, of which Hon. Sydney Anderson is chairman, has, in a few short months, uncovered more facts concerning the movement of farm produce from the farm to the table of the consumer than has any other agency that has gone before, and when its work is finally completed the public will have data which can be used for all time to come. The data assembled through the work of this Commission, if properly taken advantage of and if placed in the hands of proper persons, could be made the subjects for many text books; which could, with great profit, be taught in the schools, colleges and universities of the country. Whether the Commission will take the view that the marketing and distribution of farm products are to be the subjects of legislation, with its incident bureaucratic burdens or whether it will take the view that these are more properly the subjects for education, remains to be seen, but it would seem that the great opportunity for good of this commission lies in education and not legislation." (National Poultry Butter & Egg Bulletin, April.)

## Agricultural Financing

1. The War Finance Corporation announces that from April 10, to April 12, 1922, inclusive, it approved 82 advances, aggregating \$2,834,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes in 22 States. (W.F.C. press statement, Apr. 13.)
2. Herbert Quick is the author of an article on "The Wide Gap in Farm Credits" in The Country Gentleman for April 15, which says in part: "What have the farmers to complain of in the matter of borrowing money? Are there legitimate things for which they ought to be able to borrow, but for which there is no supply of money? If there is such a gap it is the part of statesmanship to have it plugged. There is such a gap. Private loaning agencies and the Federal Farm Loan System take care of legitimate demands for loans on land mortgages. Mind, I do not say that there are no farmers who



are hampered in getting mortgage loans. As long as men make mistakes as to the value or location of the lands they buy, they will always find themselves in danger of being in debt too deeply for any careful lender on mortgage to help them out. But I know of no locality which is on a normal basis where the farmers can not borrow about all they should have on their farms. The great insurance companies, the private mortgage companies and the Federal Farm Loan System take care of these things. The latter agency during its short life has loaned on easy terms and at low rates of interest nearly \$600,000,-000 on farm mortgages. Some have complained that the land bank does not go fast enough; but the rapidity with which it is taking over the land mortgage indebtedness of this Nation is one of the marvels of financing. It is now placing on the market about \$250,000,000 of Federal Farm Loan bonds a year, and there is some question as to whether the market would absorb them much faster. And it is gradually speeding up its processes. It was never meant, anyhow, that this great system, which will soon be the greatest financial system in the world, should take over all the land-mortgage indebtedness of this country -- or should take it over at once."

British  
Bank Rates

The Bank of England April 13 reduced its discount rate to 4 per cent. The last previous reduction was on February 16, from 5 to 4 1/2 per cent. Belief is expressed that the action was prompted by the Treasury. The action was welcomed as another step in restoration of normal conditions and loosening of money. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 14.)

Corn Acreage

"Some people advocated and some farmers practiced the burning of corn last winter. Several weeks ago an Iowa concern advertised in circulars that it was burning 30,000 bushels per month. Some men are urging farmers to reduce their acreage of corn this year 10 to 20 percent. They contend that there is an important (statistical) surplus of corn in the country, that it is selling at prices below the cost of production, and that if the 1922 acreage is not abridged the surplus still further will depress prices. According to these people, production this year must be decreased in order to increase the price of corn to growers. If that would work, why would it not be equally desirable to kill 10 to 15 percent of the pig crop this spring, in order to prevent a break in the prices of fat hogs at the markets next October and November? If decreased production is the device whereby we may secure the cost of production, 'plus a fair profit,' for farm crops and live stock, why stop at cutting down the corn acreage this year? The principle involved is the same, but the principle, as it appears to us, runs counter to common sense and practical experience. It is the basis of a doctrine which some farmers may conversationally accept, but we doubt whether they have sufficient faith in it to induce them to put it to a test. We shall be surprised if they do not excuse themselves, and recommend it to 'the other fellow.' " (The Breeder's Gazette, Apr. 5.)

Cotton Duty

An announcement April 14 by the Interstate Cottonseed Crushers' Association said that representatives of this organization had joined in declaring that duties advocated on exportable commodities of the South by the Southern Tariff Association were "grossly unsound." (Press, Apr. 15.)



**Cotton Exchanges as Education- al Factor** "Farm and Ranch has always been of the opinion that cotton exchanges, along with boards of trade, serve certain legitimate interests and are important factors in the distribution of products of world wide consumption. Farm and Ranch has also been of the opinion that the cotton exchanges and boards of trade have, in a large measure, submerged their legitimate functions and have, and do cater to the gamblers who surround the rings or operate in the pits of these institutions, and, through their buying and selling on margins, keep the market in an unsettled condition, much to the injury of producers and manufacturers; that gamblers predominate and that these institutions should either be confined to legitimate trading or be put out of business. ... Therefore, it was not without some surprise that it was learned through the daily press that a complete model of a cotton exchange would be operated at the cotton classing school during the summer session at A. & M. College, Texas. Appreciating the splendid work being done at College Station, Farm and Ranch would not unjustly criticise this new feature of the school. Perhaps the exchange will be used to show the young men the evils of speculation, or maybe it is intended to thoroughly familiarize them with all phases of the cotton trade as it is now conducted through the three great exchanges of the world. Even so, it is hard to understand what all this has got to do with one's ability to take a sample of cotton and designate its grade and length of staple. Speculators care little for grades. They merely buy and sell futures and settle on a basis of middling. Not one of them in one thousand could tell the difference between middling fair and linters. Speculators do not need to be educated in classing cotton. Do cotton classers need instruction in cotton exchange methods?"

**Milk Marketing in New York**

"In a supreme effort to break the dairymen's organization, the New York milk dealers have refused to buy April milk of the association. This is going to be a crucial test of the pooling plan. Of the outcome there should be no doubt, but because there is a more or less serious division among milk producers themselves on the question of pooling, and the fact that pasture will soon increase the surplus, the possibilities are that a number of dairymen will be tempted to sell direct. We would speak a word of caution to those who may be inclined to desert their selling organization, even though there is a temporary advantage. In the long run, it will be most disastrous if the producers' selling organization is destroyed. However, we anticipate no such result. We believe the New York producers of milk are intelligent enough and loyal enough to stick together in times of adversity, and the sooner the New York dealers learn this, the sooner will the strife cease." (Pennsylvania Farmer, Apr. 15.)

**Wool**

The Commercial Bulletin to-day says: "The demand for wool is still narrow, although trading appears to be rather more general and prices steady. In the West a little more wool has been taken in Arizona at fully \$1, clean landed basis. Interest in goods has been aroused by the American Woolen Company advancing prices on woolen cloths ten to forty-five cents a yard in consequence of the advance in raw wool. Worsted cloths have not been changed yet. The strike situation among the mills is unchanged."



## Section 3.

## MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

Prof. Richard T. Ely of the University of Wisconsin is in town and can be reached through the office of the Chief of the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates. Prof. Ely returns to Wisconsin on Sunday.

The Carnegie Institution of Washington announces an illustrated lecture on "The Cactus and its Environmental Relations" to be delivered by J. N. Rose, Research Associate in Botany, on Tuesday evening, April 18, at 8-30 o'clock, in the administration building of the institution, 16th and P Streets, N.W.

## Section 4.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Farm Products      Apr. 14: Grain market closed account Good Friday.  
Chicago hog prices down 15 to 20¢, bulk of sales \$9.95 to \$10.50. Beef steers uneven but mostly steady. Medium and good grades \$7.50 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers \$4.35 to \$8.40. Fat lambs steady to 25¢ lower at \$11.00 to \$13.75.  
Potato markets slow but steady. New stock \$7.00 to \$8.50 per barrel in leading city markets. South Carolina Wakefield cabbage \$2.00 to \$2.50 per 1 1/2 bu. hamper in New York and Philadelphia. Texas yellow onions \$4.00 to \$5.50 in eastern markets; slightly weaker at shipping points. Best South Carolina lettuce \$3.00 to \$3.50 per hamper.  
Feeling in butter markets has changed and in eastern markets especially tone has lost firmness regardless of active demand. Dealers have been free sellers as seasonal declines are in order and no one wants to be caught with heavy stocks on a falling market. Cheese markets continue weak. (Prepared by Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

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Vol. V, no. 14.

Section 1.

April 17, 1922.

Tariff Study

Besides hearing Government experts, Democrats of the Senate Finance Committee in their study of the administration tariff bill are examining manufacturers and importers as to the probable effect of the measure. American valuation was under discussion April 15. Aside from this question, the minority is giving close study to the provisions that authorize the President to increase or decrease rates within a radius of 50 per cent and to proclaim American valuation on given lists of imports when in his judgment, after investigations to be made by the Tariff Commission, this would be necessary to equalize competitive conditions in the United States and in the country from which the imports originated. (Press, Apr. 17.)

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Tariff Bill  
Opposition

The New York Times to-day says: "Opposition is becoming stronger to the Senate Tariff bill, which increases the duties on farm products and provides the foreign valuation plan, with an elastic provision authorizing the President to increase the schedules. This opposition exists not only among business men, but is more determined among members of the House and some of the representatives of the farm bloc. The faction which dictated the farm schedules in the Senate bill and succeeded in having the duties on the wool schedules increased to about the same rates as carried in the Payne-Aldrich law, as well as forcing hides on the dutiable list, is dissatisfied over some of the ore rates. About twenty-five members of the bloc in the Senate are reported to be ready to fight for a restoration of a duty on manganese."

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Lever to Resign  
from Farm Loan  
Board

Asbury F. Lever, former member of Congress and author of several agricultural bills, will soon resign from the Federal Farm Loan Board and go into private banking. Mr. Lever will head the First Carolina Joint Stock Land Bank, which will be chartered at Columbia, S.C., under the Federal Farm Loan act and will operate in the two Carolinas. W. Angus McLean, of the War Finance Corporation, will be associated with Mr. Lever in the new enterprise, and it is presumed Mr. McLean, too, will leave the Government service. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 16.)

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Thorne Out for  
Senate

Clifford Thorne, General Counsel for the American Farm Bureau Federation, April 15 formally announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for United States Senator from Iowa. He simultaneously tendered his resignation to the Farm Bureau Federation. (Press, Apr. 16.)

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Food Supply  
Research Council

The formation of a New England Research Council to study New England's food supply and marketing problems has been undertaken by representatives of New England agricultural colleges, Federal and State departments of commerce and several universities. At a meeting of the Boston Chamber of Commerce President Kenyon L. Butterfield, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, was elected chairman of the groups interested in the project, and arrangements were made to include in the council all institutions and agencies actively engaged in studying the food and marketing problems. The purpose of the council, as stated in its proposed charter, "shall be to stimulate and coordinate the studies of economic problems connected with the supply of foods and other agricultural products of New England." Lloyd S. Tenney, Assistant Chief of the United States Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, welcomed the idea of such a research council. He said that, as New England was comprised of small States, such a council could serve as a clearing house for the results of studies. (Boston dispatch to press, Apr. 17.)

New Efficiency  
Rating Bill

A law to stamp out inefficiency in the Government departments and at the same time afford protection to ex-service men in the classified service was proposed in a bill introduced in the Senate April 15 by Senator New. The bill calls for the establishment of a system of efficiency ratings for employees in the classified service and would empower the Federal Bureau of Efficiency, subject to the approval of the President, to set up a system of efficiency ratings for the classified service in the executive departments and independent Government establishments. (Press, Apr. 16.)

## Section 2.

Agricultural  
Protection

"Much interest has been manifested in a brief entitled "Equality for Agriculture," prepared by George N. Peek and Hugh S. Johnson, of the Moline Plow Co. ... In a nutshell the brief sets forth the fact that the domestic price of any crop of which we export a surplus is fixed by the world price, agricultural tariffs having no price fixing or price maintaining effect, and argues that the doctrine of protection be so revised as to insure agriculture equality with industry in protection. This is held to be of paramount importance because industry is protected by a tariff, with the result that the exchange value of the crop lacking such protection suffers in exact proportion to the protection afforded industry, or the commodities protected by such tariff. In the brief no attempt is made to set forth a remedy for the situation, but the fact is pointed out that until agriculture is adequately protected we are at any time in danger of such a condition as that in which the business world finds itself. It is urged, however, that the matter is of such importance as to warrant investigation and study by a commission of experts. A study of the brief and even a most casual review of the conditions which have existed in recent years, compels agreement with the contention that some solution of the problem set forth must be had. That a commission of experts be named is important, but we venture the hope that such a commission be not named except by competent authority. And we would suggest that whatever legislation be introduced in Congress -- and we take it that such legislation will be introduced -- provide that the Secretary of Agriculture name the commission." (Implement & Tractor Age, Apr. 5.)



Agricultural Situation 1. Easier money conditions in the eastern Federal Reserve bank districts has diverted a flood of credit badly needed into the agricultural sections of the middle Western and western States, Eugene Meyer, jr., Managing Director of the War Finance Corporation, said April 15, on his return from a tour covering 11,000 miles in twenty States. American farmers have better crop and financial prospects this year than in 1921, Mr. Meyer said. Farmers, he said, although in an improved financial position because of their ability to obtain more liberal credits, are restricting their purchasing largely to actual needs. (Press, Apr. 16.)

2. "Better times are not only ahead but are here. The prices of farm products have risen to an encouraging level and seem to be going still higher. Right here is where some are going to make a mistake. You know it is hard to sell anything on a declining market because buyers think they better wait and get things cheaper. This brings business stagnation. And it is just as true that producers do not like to sell on a rising market. They want to wait and get a little more. It is difficult to tell just when to let go and sell. Such is pure speculation. The thing to do is to sell when the price seems fair enough, and meet your obligations or buy the necessary things. Such an attitude will start the wheels moving throughout the country. Reports from manufacturers indicate that business is picking up. The railroads are hauling much more freight, which is a fair indication that stuff is moving again. Banks are easing up on credit, with plenty of money at lower rates. Merchants are having sales that clear their stores of wartime priced goods. The sale of steel indicates a revival of building, which means work for labor. World trade has been improving, which means that the world is getting over its spree. However, Europe has not yet deflated to the extent we have, so we may expect more or less depression until money the world over more nearly approaches par." (Successful Farming, April.)

## Consumption Campaigns

The Nebraska Farmer for April 15 says in an editorial: "It is quite true that the consumption of meat per capita has undergone a considerable decrease, but whether all this reduced consumption can be laid at the door of the producer is doubtful. The fact that the consumer has had his buying power restricted to a considerable extent may be at least a partial explanation for the lower consumption of meat. The per capita consumption of beef in the United States in 1921 was 57.7 pounds or 88 per cent of the normal. For the same period exports of beef were also lower. To increase the meat consumption per capita and thus make it profitable to raise and feed more live stock, a new organization was perfected recently, called the National Live Stock and Meat Board, composed of various associations of producers, the meat packers, the commission men and meat retailers. ... The dairy interests of Nebraska recently met to consider a similar proposition to increase the consumption of dairy products in the State and a committee is now at work mapping out a plan. No doubt a great deal of good can be accomplished by such organizations if properly conducted. Increasing consumption by creating a demand is the theory upon which most of our well known manufactured articles are merchandised at the present time with successful results. Cooperative associations of fruit growers on the Pacific coast have been successful with similar methods."



Farm Loan Bonds "Will Farm Loan Bonds Decline?" is the title of an interview with Charles E. Lobdell, U.S. Farm Loan Commissioner and Executive Officer of the Farm Loan Board, conducted by Theodore N. Knappen, and published in The Magazine of Wall Street for April 10. The article states that legislation advocated by farmers may have a profound adverse effect on valued outstanding farm loan bonds. It says in part "With \$506,000,000 of Federal Land Bank bonds outstanding, with another issue due soon, and with the ultimate prospect that these bonds will mount into the billions there is a deep and widespread concern among investors in the legislation affecting Federal Land Banks now before Congress or likely to come before it. The Farm Loan Board has itself recommended five changes in the organic act, members of Congress have suggested amendments and representatives of some of the farmers are either opposing the board's recommendations or urging their own alterations. The policy of the board is in favor of continued and strengthened Federal supervision and control with a marked tendency toward the restriction of the field of independent activity of the banks and of the Farm Loan associations on which they are based. Some of the board's recommendations seem to suggest that it might not be displeased if the associations were entirely dispense with, although they go no further than modifications of their powers. On the other hand there is a certain movement in Congress, backed by some of the farm organizations and by some of the Farm Loan associations towards early decentralization and independence of the twelve regional banks, as contemplated in the organic act; and there are some signs of disaffection in some of the associations with the conservative policies of the board."

## Foreign Trade

"Our export trade represents, perhaps, less than 5 per cent of the total business done in this country, but 5 per cent is about all the difference there is between success and failure in most businesses, and, moreover, if we speak of 5 per cent this, as I have indicated, applies to all business, whereas in some of our fundamental industries the proportion is vastly greater. We must ship between 250,000,000 and 300,000,000 bushels of wheat abroad every year, and of our average cotton crop of 11,000,000 to 12,000,000 bales it is necessary for us to export about 6,000,000 bales. Here in the Middle West we know that our packers, in order to be successful, must sell large quantities of their products to foreign countries. Thus most of the things that we export and that we must export represent the fundamental industry of our country, agriculture, because, after all, about half of our population is still engaged in the cultivation of our soil in one way or another. If one-half of the population must sell a large part of its produce abroad in order not to have the domestic supply far exceed the demand, then how can you expect business in the country at large to be successful, if this half of the population is unable to buy in a normal way because it finds itself surfeited with its products, owing to the fact that the rest of the world, though needing the products as much as ever, does not have the means with which to pay for them? How can anyone, then, speak of the necessity of attending to our own business and letting the rest of the world take care of itself?" (Dr. Walter Lichtenstein in the Journal of the American Bankers Association, April.)



Trade  
Relations

Sir George Paish is the author of an article in Westminster Gazette (London), republished in The Economic World, April 8, which says in part: "The problems for which a solution must be found before any real and lasting recovery of trade can come into sight are many and various. ... Two of these problems are exceptionally difficult. One is the action that needs to be taken to restore Russia's productive power in order that she may recover her ability to buy abroad by means of her exports the things she can not produce herself. The other is, how can America be paid for the great quantities of produce she has available for sale, but for which she is unwilling to take payment in goods. Of the two problems the Russian will probably prove the easier of solution, for in this case the decision lies with the Governments of the Entente Powers. The Russian people are anxious to buy all the goods which the Entente and other nations are willing to sell to them; and as the manufacturing nations, including ourselves, need to sell almost as urgently as the Russian people desire to buy, there should be no great difficulty in finding some method by which goods can be sold to Russia. The American problem is, however, one that is likely to prove extremely difficult to solve. The American people have always been anxious to sell and reluctant to buy. Now a situation has arisen which demands that they buy more freely than they sell. The bankers of America seem already to have learned the lesson that nations can not sell indefinitely unless they are prepared to buy to a corresponding extent, and that if America is to maintain the great export trade she has built up during the war, and, moreover, is to receive payment of interest and principal of the loans she has made to Europe and to other countries, she must be willing to accept payment in other goods and services. Failing this, she will be unable to sell her produce; and the countries needing the produce, however urgently, will be unable to buy it. The situation at the present time is briefly this: The war has rendered the European nations more than ever dependent upon supplies of food and raw materials from the United States, but if they can not pay for these essentials in goods, produce or services of any kind, European or other, they will before long be unable to buy them, and the poverty created by the war will be intensified by the poverty arising from the inability of Europe to purchase either the food or raw materials essential to the maintenance of a large section of her peoples. Both Europe and America will thus suffer grievous misfortune."

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Section 3.Department of  
Agriculture

Successful Farming for April says in an editorial: "If the interested parties, whoever they may be, are successful, the supervision of our public forests will be transferred to the Department of the Interior. For seventeen years the Department of Agriculture has administered the affairs of our national forests to the satisfaction of all but selfish interests that would profit enormously if they could pasture the forests without restraint, or cut timber without being forced to give heed to the future. The Department of the Interior used to have charge of the national forests. Under chief forester Ballinger such a public scandal arose that President Roosevelt was forced to transfer the Forest Service to the Department of Agriculture. There has been no scandal since. We want none. We believe it would be a public



calamity to transfer the service back to the Interior Department. We believe it would be to the best interests of all concerned if the Alaska forests which are still in the hands of the Interior Department were put in charge of the Department of Agriculture. The Alaska forests are not protected against fire as are those of the States."

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#### Section 4.

##### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

**Farm Products** Apr. 15: Chicago wheat prices at sharp upturn on buying by eastern houses and lack of selling pressure; Chicago May wheat closing higher at \$1.42 5/8; Chicago May corn higher at 61 1/2¢. Closing prices in Chicago cash markets: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.44; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.43; No. 2 mixed corn 60¢; No. 2 yellow corn 61¢; No. 3 white oats 38¢. Average farm prices: Maxx~~xx~~ak~~xx~~xx~~xx~~xx~~xx~~ No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa 47 1/2¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.36; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.20.

Chicago hog market fairly steady; bulk of sales \$9.85 to \$10.45. Cattle, sheep and lamb prices practically unchanged. Medium and good beef steers \$7.50 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers \$4.35 to \$8.40. Light and medium weight veal calves \$5.50 to \$7.75. Fat lambs \$11.00 to \$13.75.

Potatoes weaker in eastern cities; steady in middle west and producing sections. New potatoes slightly lower at \$7.00 to \$8.00 per barrel. Florida celery slightly lower at \$3.50 to \$4.25 per 10-in. crate in northern cities. South Carolina Wakefield cabbage unchanged. Texas yellow onions down 25 to 50¢ per bu. crate in some markets, numbers 1 and 2 closing at \$4.00 to \$5.00.

During the week grain market firm and prices advanced gradually despite weakness on 11th and 12th on liquidation. Sharp upturn at close carried prices to high gains over a week ago, Chicago May wheat showing a new advance of 12¢; Chicago May corn 2 3/4¢. Principal market factors were: Favorable crop and weather reports, strength in foreign markets, higher exchange rates, and revival of export demand.

Chicago hog prices declined 35 to 45¢, light hogs declining most. Beef steers and heifers up 15 to 25¢, cows generally 10 to 15¢ lower. Feeder steers strong to 15¢ higher, veal calves 75¢ to \$1 lower. Sheep and lambs sharply lower, light woolled lambs declined 75¢ to \$1 and shorn lambs 50 to 75¢ per 100 lbs. Sheep fully 25¢ lower. Eastern wholesale fresh meat prices generally weak and lower.

Hay markets firm for good grades. Receipts continued light, but were equal to the limited demand. Bad roads retarded movement in central west. Meal feeds quiet, demand indifferent; stocks and receipts generally good. Transit offerings rather light.

Butter markets have been firm but at the close the feeling changed especially in eastern markets. Demand active. The declines are of a seasonal character. Cheese markets weak with trading showing signs of more activity following declines on the Wisconsin cheese boards.

Potato markets stronger at Chicago and Kansas City. Firm in other midwestern markets, but continue weak in eastern cities. Texas yellow Bermuda onions numbers 1 and 2 drop \$1 to \$1.50 per crate in consuming markets. (Prepared by Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)



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## DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. V, no. 15.

Section 1.

April 18, 1922.

Efficiency Rating  
Bill in House

Representative Reece April 17 introduced in the House a bill similar to one offered in the Senate by Senator New on April 15, empowering the Federal Bureau of Efficiency to establish efficiency ratings for employees in the classified service.

Senator Sterling, chairman of the Committee on Civil Service, to which the New bill was referred, said yesterday that in his opinion the measure is superfluous, inasmuch as the matter of ratings in civil service is adequately covered in reclassification legislation, which has been approved by the Committee on Civil Service and is now awaiting the consideration of the Appropriations Committee. (Press, Apr. 18.)

Muscle Shoals

Members of the House Military Affairs Committee concluded yesterday their first exchange of individual opinions on the four private proposals for developing the Government's projects at Muscle Shoals, Ala., and adjourned until tomorrow. At that time, it was announced by Chairman Kahn, the committee will begin sifting down testimony heard during the investigation of the offers to reach the outstanding features of each proposal to be considered as a part of the report to be drafted for the House. The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry April 17 held its first actual examination of the offers pending before it for investigation. Thomas W. Martin, president of the Alabama Power Company, presented the offer made by this power company for its development of the power project in the Muscle Shoals territory. (Press, Apr. 18.)

Genoa Conference

The New York Times to-day says in its report from Genoa: "While the Allies were making every effort to get the Russians to recognize Russia's debts, the Germans announced April 17 that they had concluded on Easter Sunday with Tchitcherin a two-party treaty which grants to the Russians all they demand of the Allies and which the Allies refuse. What the Germans have done is this -- having seen in the first week of the Genoa conference that there was little chance of their benefiting from the alleged program, the amount of reparations being barred from discussion, have cast their lot with the Russians. The German action has upset the planned nature of the conference and injected into it the major political factor of cooperation, economically and militarily, of Germany and Russia. As the matter now stands the Germans have granted what the Allies refuse to Russia and Russia and Germany appear as two pals before a host of enemies."

Henry Wickham Steed, editor of the London Times, referring to the Russo-German treaty in a dispatch to his paper, declares the Germans have violated the Cannes resolutions and "have stabbed the conference in the back." (Assoc. Press, Apr. 18.)



## Section 2.

## Civil Service

"More Business in Government" is the title of an editorial in The Commercial and Financial Chronicle for April 15, which says in part: "We advance this thought that judgment in this matter must pass beyond consideration of civil service, spoils, and mugwumpism, and reach a golden mean between the two camps in this, that if the party in power will rise above partisanship in the selection and retention of employees of the Government, there will be 'better service,' and the people need not concern themselves either for or against either civil service or spoils, for there is ability enough in either 'party' to efficiently administer the ministerial work of Government in normal times if that party will hew to the line of efficiency first. There are objections to keeping men in official appointive positions indefinitely. If each new 'administration' will recognize the 'four-year limit' of its own tenure, reappointing the worthy and competent without reference to politics and removing the others, replacing them with competents, the civil service will never be torn to shreds nor will cliques be able to perpetuate themselves indefinitely in office."

## Cooperative Marketing

"He is a shortsighted merchant who can not see the good results of cooperative marketing. A gradual method of selling will insure better prices; better prices will bring greater prosperity to his customers, and greater prosperity for them will mean greater prosperity for the merchant. Consequently, every intelligent merchant should be willing to furnish supplies to cooperative marketing association members, and let the association pay off the debt out of the first sales of the crop. In order to do this, it is necessary to have it understood that where the farmer has been furnished supplies equal to or almost equal to the value of his crop, the entire amount can not be paid at once." (Progressive Farmer, Apr. 15.)

## Cotton

"How Cotton Stands" is the title of an editorial in The Wall Street Journal for April 17 which says in part: "In eight months the United States has consumed more cotton than the entire production of the past year. Consumption and exports are now eating into the carry-over at a rate that will have cleared the country of cotton by the time the new crop comes on the market. Unless production is 50% more than last year there will not be enough to supply probable demand for another season. ... In the past eight months the world has been using American cotton at the rate of about 12,500,000 bales per annum, and yet the last year's crop was only 75% of that figure. There is no reason to expect the world will take less next year than the present season if the cotton is obtainable. But will it be produced? Acreage, amount of fertilizers used, weather and insects must be the controlling factors, and all these are still behind the curtain. But in the light of what facts are already known, a crop large enough to meet world demand does not seem probable, to put it mildly."

## Farm Interest Rates

Michigan Farmer for April 15 says: "The great law of supply and demand is perhaps nowhere better illustrated than in the matter of interest rates. When there is a big demand for money interest rates are high, and vice versa. Bankers and private capitalists are just like bakers and butchers and candlestick makers in this regard. They maintain high rates just as long as the trade will bear it. And the



man who needs additional capital to conduct his business is in even worse shape to start a boycott than is the consumer who must purchase the necessities of life, since in his case there is no possibility of substitution. Nothing else will do where money is needed. And the worst phase of the problem is the fact that the very process of deflation, which has been so complete in agriculture, creates the need of more capital in many cases, because it involves a loss of capital already invested in the production of the deflated commodities. Naturally farmers hesitate to borrow money, even when it is available, at war time rates to finance postwar production. They feel that interest rates on short-time loans ought to be possible to make long-time loans on better terms. And they are right in this position. Interest rates will come down, too, but not until there is an accumulation of uninvested capital seeking an outlet. ... The reaction is sure to come. Under present conditions it may be delayed longer than has been the case in any previous deflation period on account of the large amounts now invested in tax-free bonds. In the meantime farmers will have to finance their business at present rates."

Forestry in  
Southern  
States

"Thirty-two state legislatures last year appropriated a total of \$4,065,434 for forestry work. This is an increase of 78 per cent over the appropriations available in 1920. Only three States cut their forestry appropriations. Kentucky, sad to say, was one of them. West Virginia was another. Of the 16 States making no appropriations for forest protection preservation, seven are in the South, -- Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina. Yet in no part of the country is forest conservation more important to the future welfare of the people than it is in the South. It is time for this section to wake up to the importance of its forests and to begin taking care of them." (Southern Agriculturist, Apr. 15.)

Grain Grade  
Changes

" ... The grades were not made in Dr. Coulter's and Professor Fitz's way. The Office of Grain Standardization spent many years and hundreds of thousands of dollars in investigations and in experiments of every conceivable kind in order to make grades fair to producers and millers; and the men who made them were quite as competent as the college professors named, both as scientists and as practical inspectors. The attitude of the Department of Agriculture now reminds one of the old saying that it takes nature a hundred years to grow a tree which any man with an ax can cut down in fifteen minutes. But that is not the point. The unfortunate fact is that the Government is so erratic in everything it does no one has any confidence in the continuity of any Government policy. Every new Congress, every new Secretary, at the behest of a class or a crank, overthrows without hesitation the expensive foundations laid by a previous administration, and in consequence waste of effort and of money and the business disturbance is enormous." (Price Current-Grain Reporter, Apr. 12.)

Produce  
Grading  
Enforced

Wisconsin is for the first time enforcing the grading of farm products according to rules laid down. Judge Foley, of Superior, upon the recommendation of District Attorney Clive Strang, of Grantsburg, has fined Rosander & Co. \$285 for shipping 240 sacks of Wisconsin potatoes to Minneapolis without the official tag showing the grade. The Judge declared consumers in other states must be protected from fraud by the misrepresentation of quality. Complaints to the State



Market Department by District Attorney Hartman, Juneau, that cheese was shipped to Chicago, without certificate of grade issued by the State, resulted in the subjection of five cheese dealers of Dodge County to criminal prosecution. Department counsel will urge that sentences of imprisonment, as well as fines, be imposed in twenty potato prosecutions and six other cases against cheesemakers and dealers which will be brought before the circuit courts. (Milwaukee dispatch to press, Apr. 18.)

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Section 3.

Department of 1. Price Current-Grain Reporter for April 12 says in an editorial: Agriculture

"The disposition now seen in the Department of Agriculture to hold county agents to their legitimate business under the law is laudable, though the discipline in practice is recent and does not appear to be at all harsh. The Omaha Journal-Stockman lets light in on the matter as seen in Nebraska: 'Assistant Secretary Pugsley gave the county agents some pretty broad hints on his recent visit to Nebraska as to the necessity of their attending strictly to the matters they are being paid to look after and keeping out of business and politics.' Which doesn't appear very much more drastic than the old maid's enticing, 'Now, you stop!' It is, however, being borne in upon the department chiefs that this thing of the Government paying to extension lecturers and demonstrators, Federal and State, the county tax money that they may busy themselves, not with extension work but to knock the business of the taxpayers who provide the funds for their support, is being heartily condemned by both business man and fair-minded farmers, who realize as much as anyone what a misfit many of the 'extensioners' are. Both, too, as the Journal-Stockman says, 'are wondering just what has brought about Mr. Pugsley's change of heart on these matters. Before he went to Washington he seemed to approve, to actually glory in, the very activities of county farm agents that he now so severely condemns. Perhaps he can see these matters more clearly through the more distant perspective of the District of Columbia.' Perhaps, too, the political value of the county agent is seen to be working as near the zero mark as is his value as a 'social uplifter' and agricultural teacher."

2. "Free Seed Scandal Continues" is the title of an editorial in New York Commercial for April 15, which says in part: "This free seeds proposition is the most contemptible piece of graft in Congress. It represents peanut politics carried to the nth degree. It is a childish attempt to curry favor with the voters under the guise of encouraging the use of better seeds. If it were really helpful it would be a matter for the Department of Agriculture to handle, in which case it would be like pulling teeth to get even \$350 for the purpose. If the Congressmen are so interested in performing the functions of the Department of Agriculture, why do they not appropriate the funds asked for for research work that would be actually beneficial to the farmers? If they really have the interests of the farmers at heart there are a dozen ways that suggest themselves of doing them more definite good with the same amount of money than in the distribution of free seeds. ... If these Congressmen wanted to do something for the farmers they could appropriate the \$350,000 for better crop reports and see to it that the department is supplied with traveling agents. ..."



## Section 4.

## MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND VISITORS.

A meeting of the Library staff of the department will be held Thursday afternoon, April 20, promptly at 4:30, in the Reading Room of the main Library. A talk will be given by Dr. L. O. Howard, Chief of the Bureau of Entomology.

## Section 5.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 17: Chicago wheat prices higher early, but later heavy liquidation forced prices down, Chicago May wheat closing at \$1.40 5/8; Chicago May corn lower at 60 3/4¢. Cash demand poor. Visible supply of wheat 33,129,000 bushels, a decrease of 1,034,000 bushels for week. Visible supply corn 43,146,000 bushels, a decrease of 2,159,000 bushels for week. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.42; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.40; No. 2 mixed corn 60¢; No. 2 yellow corn 61¢; No. 3 white oats 37¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa 47¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.42 3/4; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.26.

Chicago hog prices about steady, bulk of sales \$9.75 to \$10.55. Beef steers fairly active. Medium and good grades steady to strong at \$7.50 to \$8.85. Butcher cows and heifers up 15 to 25¢ at \$4.50 to \$8.60. Fat lambs mostly 25¢ lower at \$10.75 to \$13.50.

Potato prices at northern shipping points steady. Midwestern markets steady and firm; eastern markets weak. Texas yellow onions \$3.75 to \$4.50 per standard crate in New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia. South Carolina cabbage fairly steady in northern cities at \$2.25 to \$2.75 per 1 1/2 bushel hamper.

Hay market continues firm principally because of light receipts which do not equal the light local demand. Clover and clover mixed in less urgent demand because of rapid growth of pastures. Wheatfeeds quoted higher in most markets though demand for middlings and other heavy feeds reported as poor. Transit and mill offerings of wheatfeeds light, but stocks appear ample in most sections.

Butter markets steady to firm. Seasonal declines expected at any time. Cheese markets lower and weak. Good consumptive demand at lower prices prevailing but distributors have bought sparingly and for immediate needs only.

Spot cotton up 16 points closing around 16.88¢. New York May futures up 31 points closing at 17.91¢. (Prepared by Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average Closing Price	Apr. 17	Apr. 15	Apr. 17, 1921
	20 Industrials	92.75	93.06	76.15
	20 R. R. Stocks	84.77	84.32	69.88
(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 18.)				



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 16.

Section 1.

April 19, 1922.

Tariff Legislation

The Republican Senatorial Conference voted April 18 to make the tariff bill the unfinished business of the Senate April 20 and hurry it to a vote with all possible speed.

(Press, Apr. 19.)

Bonus Legislation

The Senate will pass a soldiers' bonus bill, it was decided by a caucus of the Republican members April 18. By a vote of 26 to 9 the caucus approved a resolution informing the Committee on Finance that it was the opinion of the Republicans that a bonus measure should be enacted at this session. (Press, Apr. 19.)

Muscle Shoals

Thomas W. Martin, president of the Alabama Power Company, April 18 told the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry that his corporation would be glad and willing to enter into new negotiations with the Government for the purpose of working out a policy for the development of the Muscle Shoals power project. (Press, Apr. 19.)

St. Lawrence

Waterway Opposed

In a speech opposing the St. Lawrence Great Lakes waterway project, Senator Calder, April 18, condemned it as a "sectional dream" that would not benefit the country, but would benefit Canada both commercially and economically.

Senator Townsend, speaking from the standpoint of the Middle West, declared the enterprise would be an economy and would succeed, "this selfish opposition of a section of the country to the contrary notwithstanding." (Press, Apr. 19.)

Packers Not To Merge

Flat denial that an amalgamation of the Armour, Cudahy and Wilson packing companies was contemplated was made April 18 by J. Ogden Armour, Edward Cudahy and Thomas E. Wilson, presidents of their respective organizations. (Chicago dispatch to press, Apr. 19.)

The Genoa Conference

The Allies have agreed that the Reparations Commission shall declare the Russo-German treaty null and void, according to the Genoa correspondent of the London Daily Mail. The Genoa correspondent of the London Times says it is reported that the neutral powers, headed by Denmark, will formally protest against the decision reached by the powers April 18 to exclude Germany from the discussions of the political commission without consulting the whole conference. (Press, Apr. 19.)



## Section 2.

Agricultural  
Financing

The War Finance Corporation announces that from April 13 to April 15, 1922, inclusive, it approved 84 advances, aggregating \$2,722,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes in 22 States. During the week ending April 15, 1922, the corporation approved a total of 166 advances, aggregating \$5,556,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes. (W.F.C. press statement, Apr. 17.)

## Hog Marketing

"The Institute of American Meat Packers presents its views on the American hog farmer and the British bacon trade on page 27 of this issue. It seems that while the United States furnishes 51 per cent of the British consumption of pork products, yet this amount is only 4.3 per cent of the American production. Meat packers feel, therefore, that they can not ask the American hog farmer to modify his type of hog in an effort to cater more effectively to the British bacon market which they regard as a rather small affair at best. Since the packers regard the home pork market as the supremely important affair, we would like to ask what they have done or are likely to do in the way of stimulating home consumption of pork products. Isn't it possible that it may pay the American hog farmer in cooperation with the packer to lay a little more emphasis on quality and particularly on a leaner side of bacon. If we are going to increase consumption of pork products by advertising in the city press we must play up the idea of quality. We feel that the packers have failed as yet to put their best brains to work as effectively as they should be put to work on this pork problem. There should be several men familiar both with corn belt hog conditions and city conditions spending their entire time studying the nature of hog supply and demand." (Wallaces' Farmer, Apr. 14.)

Live-Stock  
Industry

"The live-stock industry has set the pace for agricultural re-adjustment and indications are that it will 'continue to exert a dominating influence in the return of business to normal conditions,' according to a quarterly report issued at Chicago by S.B. Stafford, president of the Chicago Live Stock Exchange. 'Hog prices are on a sound basis,' says the report. 'Continued light supplies may be expected because of the enormous losses the spring pig crop has sustained. Cattle should sell at higher levels. We are on the verge of a scarcity of beef-producing animals that would have become acute before now had not the depression caused an increase in marketing at the time it curtailed consumptive demand.' There is a heavy demand for breeding animals, says the report showing 'the faith of the producers in the future of the live-stock industry.' " (Jour. of Commerce, Apr. 18.)

## Production

"It is unfortunate that some farmers misinterpret what the agricultural press and the county agents say about production. These farmers seem to have the idea that they are being urged to produce greater totals in the face of an existing surplus, which idea is not correct. What is being advocated is economical production, which usually involves more bushels or tons per acre and the use of less land to achieve the same results at lower cost. No friend of agriculture is urging anybody to increase production regardless of cost or profit, but it should always be in order to advocate economical production and all that goes with it." (National Stockman and Farmer, Apr. 15.)



Readjustment  
of Prices

"From all this talk about readjustment it is easy to get wrong impressions. For instance the slump and subsequent reaction in prices of certain farm products is sometimes called readjustment, whereas it was nothing more than violent fluctuation. There is in fact no such thing as readjustment of prices of farm products alone. Readjustment consists of resumption of the proper relation to each other of prices of all products. It may come about through the advance of those which are unduly low or the decline of those which are unduly high, or both of these movements at the same time. That tendency has been in evidence recently, and it will continue until a balance is reached. The point of balance will be when those who are engaged in each industry can exchange their products for the products of other industries, when the labor of each industry can afford to buy the results of the labor of the others. In the course of time this will come to pass, for the old and relentless law of economy will compel it, but evidently it will take time." (National Stockman and Farmer, Apr. 15.)

Tropical  
Products

"Where Shall We Go for Tropical Products?" is the title of an article on products of the Philippine Islands by Arthur F. Fischer, in Asia for May, which says: "The United States imports every year approximately \$2,000,000,000 worth of food products and raw materials from the tropics and semi-tropics. Without these products, manufacturing would languish and many thriving industries would fall away. In other words, we are becoming more and more dependent upon the great undeveloped areas of production in tropical countries for our very existence. Dr. E.D. Ball of the United States Department of Agriculture maintains that within twenty-five years we shall be consuming, either as food or as essentials in manufacture, practically everything we can raise in the way of agricultural products and shall have nothing left for export. Prof. Raymond Pearl of John Hopkins University estimates that when the maximum population of 197,000,000 is reached in the continental territory of the United States, one-half of the calories necessary for sustenance of this population will have to be imported. These calculations may be viewed as alarmist creations of fanciful minds. It is true that they imply the old economic fallacy of 'other things being equal' -- which they never are. In any case, we have obviously not reached the stage of brotherliness where the mess of pottage is assured, where raw materials are guaranteed. Yet the average American, with an indifference savoring somehow of laziness born of plenty rather than of the Old World fatalism born of religious acceptance of adversity, is likely to say, 'Why worry?' and cheerfully dismiss, as none of his business, all the problems that are going to confront the next generation. Meanwhile countries of longer vision, such as England, Japan, France, Holland and Belgium, are taking a very different view of the matter. They, too, are using up their resources beyond the scale of production. Therefore they consider it essential to develop and protect their colonial possessions and to give governmental support to friendly trade relations with such countries as furnish them with the sinews of their industry. Herein lies the secret of the major difference in foreign trade policies between the United States and other great countries. The Philippines are the only important tropical country, except Cuba, Hawaii and Porto Rico, with which the United States has other than commercial relations. ... The Filipinos would welcome such capital as would contribute to the development of the natural resources of the country. ... "



U.S. Grain  
Growers, Inc.

Wallaces' Farmer for April 12 says in an editorial: "While we believe that the factional fight at the convention has weakened the organization, particularly in its hold on the farmers, it still seems likely that the work has gone forward so far that it will be difficult for even an unfortunate incident like this to injure the movement fatally. The U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., has 55,000 members signed up on a five-year contract. It has contracted to handle over 100,000,000 bushels of grain the coming season. At the present time, therefore, it is in a position to be the largest grain firm in the world. With this much of a start, it would seem not too difficult to achieve a moderate degree of success the first season. There are, of course, two big jobs ahead of the company. One is the task of establishing a sales agency that will be able to handle the grain for the members efficiently. The other is the task of winning back to the support of the company those states which were alienated by the sort of politics practiced by the majority at the convention. Success in one of these tasks will likely mean success in the other also. If Gustafson and his associates can organize sales agencies at different terminals, the farmers of Illinois, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Kansas may be willing to forget the injustice done them at the annual meeting in their satisfaction at the successful working out of a marketing program."

War Finance  
Corporation

In a review of the work of the War Finance Corporation, Commercial West for April 15 says: "One thing about the War Finance Corporation is that it is not politically controlled nor is any favoritism shown. It is almost certain that the banking fraternity realize how beneficial it has been in heading off disaster in some sections and in protecting industries so sadly in need of protection. Those who have knowledge of the great task imposed upon Mr. Meyer and upon the different district committees appointed by him, fully realize that it is no simple matter to carry on this work. The job is a big one, and does not admit of mediocre effort, nor can it partake of the character of a political shuttlecock."

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### Section 3.

Department of  
Agriculture

The Washington Herald for April 16 says in an editorial: "Here in Washington there are a number of Government employees whose thrilling experiences are equal to any recounted from the war front. For instance, Dr. William M. Mann, entomologist of the Department of Agriculture, with three other scientists, landed in New York yesterday after ten months of exploration in the jungles of the Amazon Valley. Pushing its toilsome way on rafts up the reptile-infested rivers the expedition encountered poisonous insects bringing deadly disease. They were in constant fear of the screw worm, a hitherto unknown insect which develops in human flesh after entrance has been secured through a slight scratch. The only cure is a heroic cutting away of the wound. A number of times the rafts capsized in the rivers. Members of the party had narrow escapes from death and valuable collections were lost. ... As the result of their labors the scientists brought back to the United States nearly a ton of specimens of jungle life. All these will prove valuable in the progress of science in



America. ... It is thus science advances, and Washington scientists ever have been among the foremost to adventure in strange and dangerous corners of the world in search of material which will add to the sum total of human knowledge."

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#### Section 4.

##### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

###### Farm Products

April 18: Chicago wheat prices higher early, but decline later on liquidation, Chicago May wheat closing at \$1.39 3/8; Chicago May corn lower at 59 3/4¢. Weakness in stock market had some affect. Mill demand slow. Corn had narrow local trade and prices followed wheat. Cash market weak; closing prices: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.41; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.39; No. 2 mixed corn 59¢; No. 2 yellow corn 60¢; No. 3 white oats 36¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa 46¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.42 1/2; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.25.

Chicago hog prices steady to 10¢ lower, bulk of sales \$9.80 to \$10.50. Beef steers slow; 10 to 25¢ lower; medium and good grades \$7.40 to \$8.75. Fat cows and heifers weak to 25¢ lower. Butcher cows and heifers \$4.50 to \$8.50. Fat lambs strong to 25¢ higher at \$11.00 to \$13.75.

Potato markets nearly steady. Northern shipping points \$1.30 to \$1.40 per 100 lbs. New potatoes \$5.50 per barrel at Hastings, Florida, with haulings moderate. Texas yellow onions \$2 per crate at shipping points; \$3 to \$4 in northern markets. Louisiana strawberries slightly lower; in New York 12 to 14¢ per pint; \$2.25 to \$2.50 per crate in Chicago.

Spot cotton up 7 points, closing at 16.94¢ per lb. New York May futures up 3 points at 17.94¢. (Prepared by Pur. Mkt. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Apr. 18	Apr. 17	Apr. 18, 1921
	20 Industrials	91.15	92.75	76.10
	20 R.P. stocks	83.85	84.77	69.33
	(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 19.)			

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Vol. V, no. 17.

Section 1.

April 20, 1922.

### The Tariff Bill

The administration tariff bill is to be called up to-day in the Senate, but in the absence of Senator McCumber, who is in charge of it, the program for its consideration was last night somewhat indefinite. Senator Simmons, ranking Democrat on the Finance Committee, said yesterday the minority report would not be ready to-day. Republican senators of the agricultural-tariff bloc held another session April 19, discussing rates in which they are interested. Senator Gooding declared the bloc stood by the original rates asked of the Finance Committee majority, in the hope that the increases they seek could be presented in the form of committee amendments. Rates on sugar were discussed at some length, but a final decision was postponed. (Press, Apr. 20.)

### Packers' Decree

Attacking the Government's recent injunction against the great packers as "a highly disastrous economic mistake, wholly unfounded in law or fact," the California Cooperative Canneries, of San Francisco April 19 asked the District of Columbia Supreme Court to vacate the decree or radically modify it. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 20.)

### The Genoa Conference

The German delegates and experts have not yet been able to find a formula whereby to compromise with the entente powers, without sacrificing the Russo-German treaty. ... Efforts are being made to have the conference formulate a Russian policy in which the Russo-German treaty can be absorbed, thus giving it the stamp of conference approval and removing the cause of hard feeling. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 20.)

The French delegation April 19, seconded by the Russian delegation, proposed to the Finance Commission that the Bank of England be asked to convene a meeting of representatives of central banks of emission for the study of plans of cooperation. The motion was carried. An invitation will be sent to the Directors of the American Federal Reserve Bank and here it is frankly admitted that without the co-operation of the American banks the meeting can do little or no good. Sir Robert Horne, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking to the press yesterday, declared that American banks were in a position to wreck, or at least make difficult, the realization of any proposal, but he held the view that they would not withhold their cooperation, as the question is not in any way one of Europe's or anybody else's politics, but a simple economic question from which American financiers and American industry stand to gain equally with Europe. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 20.)

Former Premier Delacroix informed the Associated Press April 19 that J.P. Morgan had accepted the invitation to be one of four bankers who will meet in Europe to study the question of arranging an international loan for Germany. (Assoc. Press, Apr. 20.)



## Section 2.

Australian  
Meat  
Situation

"The question that is agitating the minds of cattle owners in Australia is whether rock bottom has been touched in values. Some plants have started operations, however, in spite of the fact that not in thirty years have cattle been so cheap, with so little prospect of improving beef prices. The position of mutton is better. Prices in London show an improvement, and of course a firmer market for wool makes sheep a better proposition. The result is that a great many cattle holders on the western ranches are changing over to sheep." (Queensland dispatch to National Provisioner, Apr. 15.)

Cooperative  
Marketing

"The message of Aaron Sapiro to 1,800 assembled tobacco growers at Hartford last week was one our New England farmers needed to hear. Though directed at tobacco growers it applies with equal force to producers of onions, fruits, poultry products and especially dairy products. As a matter of fact our milk producers have already decided that a cooperative marketing pool is their only salvation. It is exactly the same sort of pool that tobacco men are now considering, that is, a sound, binding, long term cooperative effort based upon commodity instead of locality. Economic forces are pushing our farmers irresistibly into this constructive and business-like action as a matter of protection to themselves and their industry. It occurred in European countries, like Denmark, decades ago and in California some years ago. Other sections of our country are gradually finding it the only solution of their problems."

(New England Homestead, Apr. 8.)

Cotton in  
Argentina

"Cotton Production in Argentina" is the title of an article by M. T. Meadows, Manager, U.S. Chamber of Commerce in the Argentine Republic, in Commerce and Finance for April 19, which says: "Few American cotton men realize that northern Argentina, together with southern Paraguay and Bolivia, comprise a potential cotton belt fully as large as that of the United States. This vast region, endowed with a fertile soil and favored by nature with a benign climate, is still less than virgin, even though it is in easy reach of Buenos Aires both by traffic on the Parana and Uruguay rivers, as well as over the network of railways which traverse it from all sides. ... Practically all of the Argentine cotton exported goes to Barcelona. Spain has shown the greatest interest in the purchase of the Argentine crop. A small quantity of cotton is sold to Uruguay, but the major portion of the crop is employed by home industries."

## Cream Grading

Hoard's Dairyman for April 14 says in an editorial: "It is just as unreasonable to sell cream without grading it as it would be to sell wheat without grading it. Wheat has been graded for years and every producer who offers wheat for sale expects to be paid for it according to its grade. There is a marked difference in quality of cream and the kind of butter it makes and the price for which this butter sells in the market. At the present time the difference between butter scoring 92 and that scoring 87 is 7¢ a pound. There is a constant demand for the dairy farmer to produce a higher grade of cream, but comparatively few creameries offer any inducement to him except that of satisfied pride for producing a high grade cream. More interest has been taken the past year or two in the grading of cream and the practice is becoming more general than any time in the past. It is the only just basis upon which to purchase cream."



Farm  
Implement  
Market

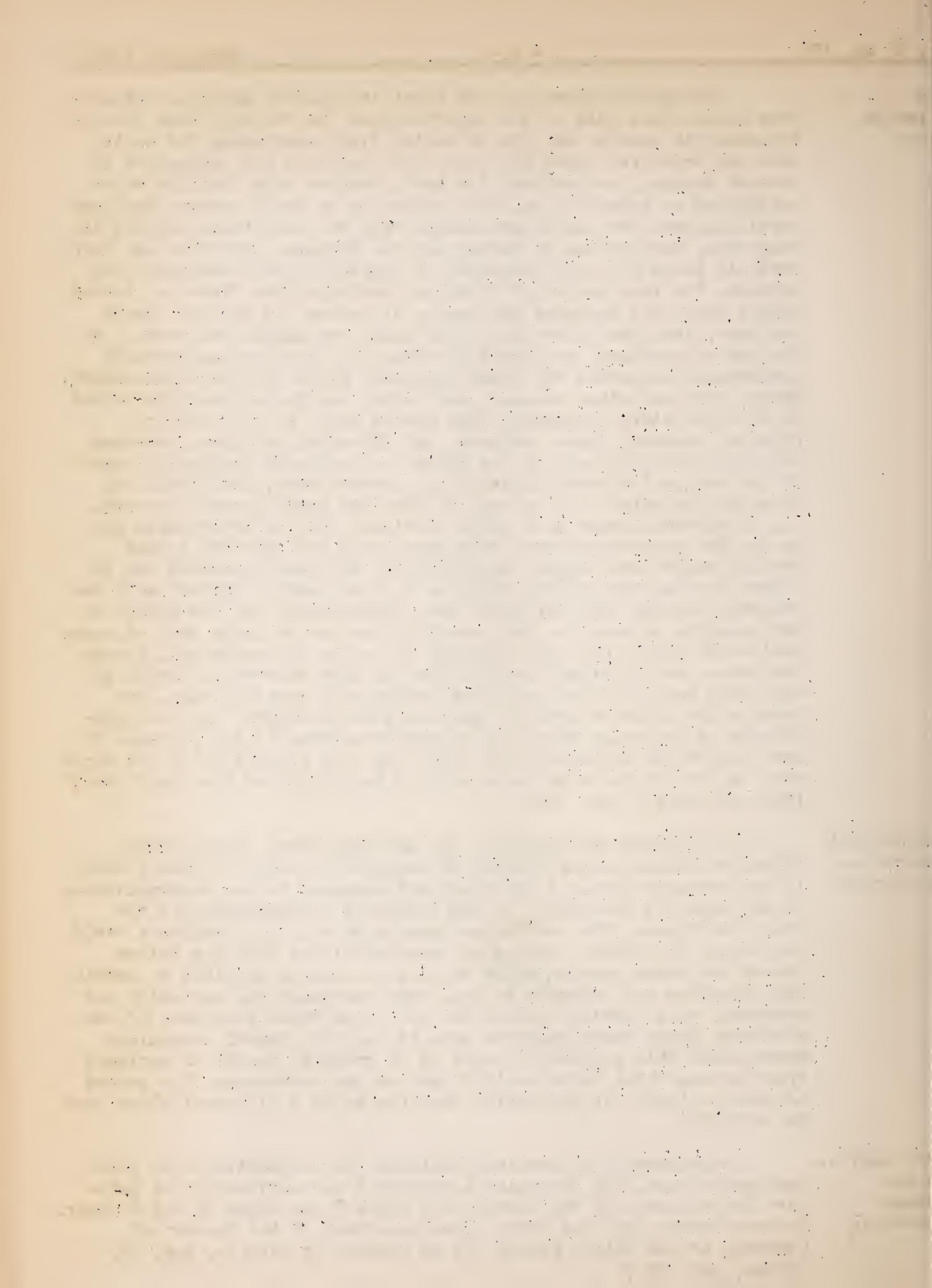
"If tariff makers have at heart the good of American industry they should take note of the opportunities for foreign trade that are beginning to open to us. One promising field developing for us is that for tractors, plows and other farm machines and implements in eastern Europe, the near and far East. Whether this field is to be cultivated or barred to us, will depend in no small measure upon our tariff policy. The world must emerge from war conditions changed in many ways. Agriculture in Turkey and the Balkans, primitive and backward, is faced with the necessity of adopting modern machinery and methods. The long period of fighting, including the first and second Balkan wars, has depleted the supply of horses and oxen for draft purposes. From the necessity of the case, the people are turning to the use of tractors, and American firms are even now successfully dominating the market for these machines, plows and other implements. Wheat, corn and other cereals, and cotton can be successfully raised in that territory. Naturally, the demand would be for tractors, reapers, binders, plows, harrows, and threshing machines. Improved farm methods would mean in the future an increased purchasing power of the people for other goods. Going further east, into India and China the traveler will be sure to find the American-made tractor. . . . In eastern Europe is a large territory that is practically new to us. The governments that have been pried off from the former Russian empire are largely agricultural. In these countries and in Poland and Czechoslovakia, there is a great lack of agricultural machinery. Germany once furnished the requirements, but the market is now possible to America. The possibilities are so large that it seems well worth while. Our own continent is not to be overlooked. Canada and Mexico are offering possibilities in this direction. Canada is now using many tractors and other machines of American make. The Cuban sugar industry depends upon American machinery, and the agriculture of Argentina must keep up with the times by the purchase of more and better implements. In fact, the food production of the world must in the future be by means of more machinery and less man labor." (Wall St. Jour., Apr. 19.)

International  
Commerce Re-  
construction

A dispatch from Genoa to the New York Times to-day says: "That the United States Chamber of Commerce be asked to take a hand in the reconstruction of international commerce is one recommendation of the Expert's Commission to the Financial Subcommission of the Genoa Conference. The commission reports that in its opinion a world conference of experts, including representatives from the United States and South America, ought to meet as soon as possible to examine the situation and indicate in case they recognize the necessity and advantage of a combined action the countries which have need of assistance, those which ought to have it and the general conditions under which this assistance ought to be granted. Russia is excluded from the countries which would figure at the conference. The ground of this exclusion is presumably that she is on a different plane from the others."

Labor, Agricul-  
ture and  
Business  
Cooperation

Organization of American business and cooperation with labor and agriculture, "in obtaining legislation and administrative policies for the good of the Nation as a whole," was urged by H.B.Wheeler, Chicago banker, and for three years president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, in an address at Buffalo, Apr. 19. (Press, Apr. 20.)



Meat Marketing in New Zealand "Heavy losses of meat producers, exporters and wholesale distributors in New Zealand during 1921 resulted in an interesting experiment in pooling put forward by the Dominion prime minister. The result has been a compulsory pool among producers, according to cable advices. In its broad outline it seems to be a new form of interference with the free working of the laws of supply and demand in the supposed interest of producers. During the past seven years such control as is embodied in the New Zealand meat export control bill has been shown to be always unsatisfactory and often disastrous. This was certainly the case in regard to meat. After so much bitter experience there is no reason to expect any better results if any government were to exercise control again. There are other remedies, however, which can be applied to the situation. And although they are less heroic, they are, in the opinion of prominent British authorities, such as to secure by surer methods a long-continued period of profitable business. These methods may be summarized as follows: Stricter grading, with elimination of inferior qualities; a reduction in the number of ports; an extension of the shipping season; better regulation of sailings from the country of production. ... The New Zealand situation is chiefly interesting to us as showing once more the futility of government interference with private business, and the dubiousness of any sort of forced attempt to bring about prosperity." (National Provisioner, Apr. 15.)

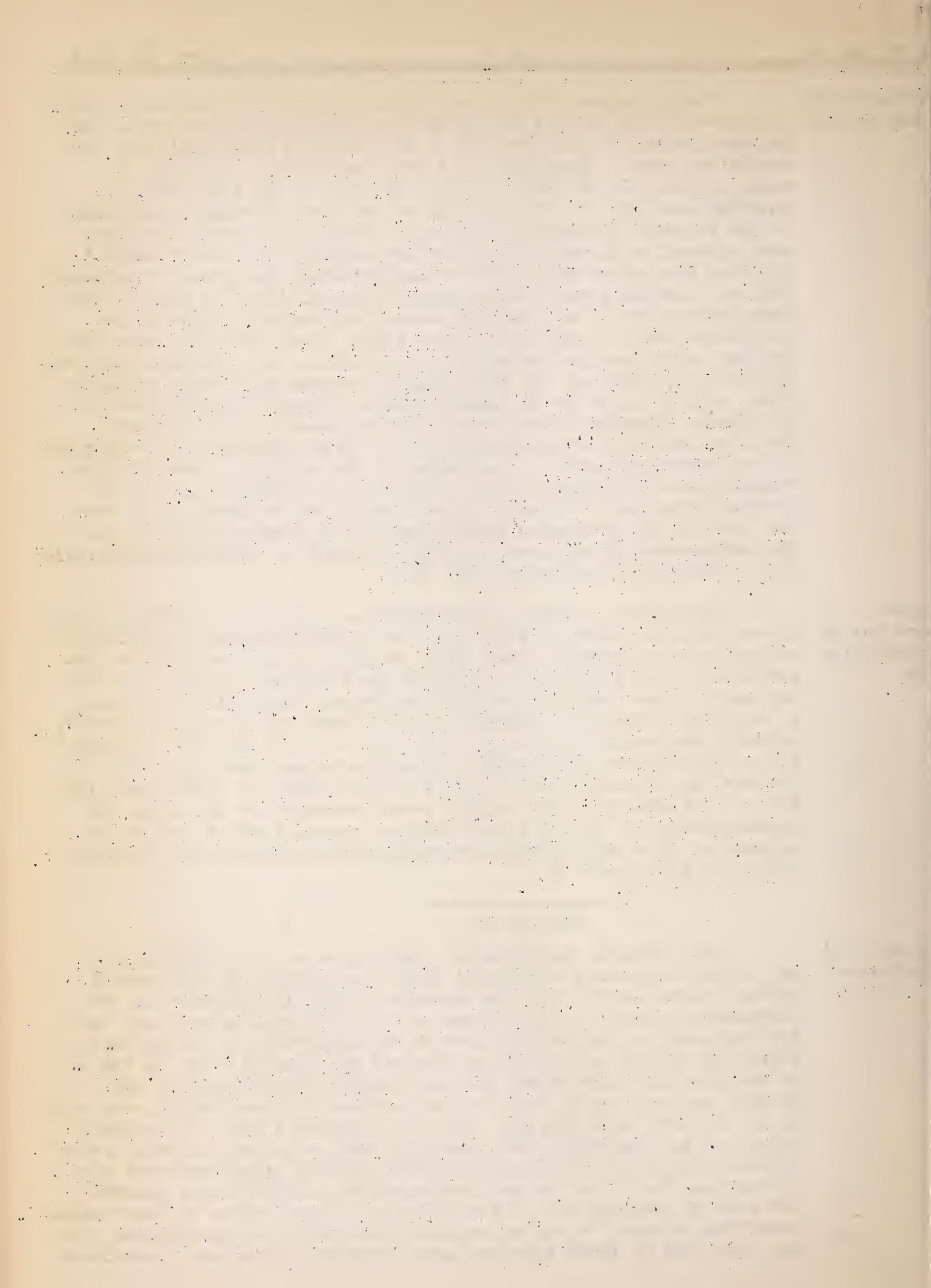
Packers  
Demand Cut in  
Refrigeration  
Plant

Reduction in rates on refrigeration space to the British Isles is essential if American exporters are to meet European competition, according to a petition filed April 18 with the Emergency Fleet Corporation by the Institute of American Meat Packers, included in which are many of the country's greatest exporters. Interests of millions of American farmers and stockmen are involved, the petition asserted. Although the season for making contracts for cool space has arrived, it was pointed out, practically no contracts have been made. Before the war, it is said, cool air space was available at seldom more than 50 per cent over ordinary stowage rates, whereas now the lines ask approximately 100 per cent over ordinary rates. Packers say, it is understood, that the Shipping Board has considerable space available. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 19.)

### Section 3.

Department of  
Agriculture

The Florists' Exchange for April 15 says in an editorial on the coming conference to be held under the auspices of the Federal Horticultural Board: "With the approach of May 15, interest in the conference naturally gains in extent and intensity. At the same time this interest can be merely a matter of conjecture, as neither are there any grounds upon which to forecast its results, nor, so far as we can find out, have there been any further developments of the board's program, which, when the conference was first called, was said by Dr. Marlatt to be non est. When one considers the international aspect of the conference the prospect seems to become a little better defined; but even as the vision becomes clearer it becomes even more disturbing. Thanks to the two postponements, it has become possible for foreign governments and horticultural organizations to have representatives attend. It may be expected that these representatives have made the most of their time and have carefully worked out a unanimous



program upon which to base such protests or such requests as they may see fit to make. ... The Horticultural Advertiser (England) of March 29 contains the following paragraphs which are brief, but very much to the point: 'Preliminary to the Horticultural Advisory Council Meeting, a conference of nurserymen ... was held at the Ministry.

... At Government expense, Dr. Keeble will be sent to the Plant Conference at Washington, in May, to put the British traders' case.

... It is not merely a case of Dr. Keeble's having to argue the entomological side of the quarantine. If the American Government extends the quarantine so as to shut out British horticultural exports, the British Government will not improbably consider taking similar action with American horticultural products sent to this country. America exports a great quantity of apples and pears, as well as seeds, and the British Ministry of Agriculture is not going to sit idly by. We advise America to get the latest information as to what British protective action may follow.' As an individual foreigner has expressed it, 'European nations are not disposed to allow themselves to be placed in economic inferiority by such means as those that the Federal Horticultural Board maintains and applies.'"

#### Section 4.

##### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

###### Farm Products

Apr. 19: Chicago wheat prices higher early on strength in Liverpool and market had good undertone throughout. Chicago May wheat higher at  $\$1.42\frac{3}{4}$ ; Chicago May corn higher at  $61\frac{1}{4}$ . Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat  $\$1.44$ ; No. 2 hard winter wheat  $\$1.42$ ; No. 2 mixed corn  $61\frac{1}{2}\%$ ; No. 2 yellow corn  $61\frac{1}{2}\%$ ; No. 3 white oats  $38\frac{1}{2}\%$ . Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa  $48\frac{1}{2}\%$ ; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota  $\$1.40$ ; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas  $\$1.27$ .

Chicago hog prices steady to  $10\frac{1}{2}\%$  higher, bulk of sales  $\$9.85$  to  $\$10.55$ . All classes of beef cattle generally steady. Medium and good grades  $\$7.40$  to  $\$8.75$ . Butcher cows and heifers  $\$4.50$  to  $\$8.40$ . Fat lambs steady to strong at  $\$11.00$  to  $\$13.75$ .

Potato markets at shipping points steady for old stock. City markets slightly weaker. Florida potatoes weaker, f.o.b., Hastings at  $\$5.25$  per barrel;  $\$6.00$  to  $\$7.75$  in city markets. Strawberries slightly lower at shipping points, but steady in northern markets at  $25$  to  $28\frac{1}{2}\%$ . South Carolina cabbage steady in New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore at  $\$1.75$  to  $\$2.25$  per 100 lbs.

Eastern hay markets continue firm on light receipts, but prices practically unchanged. Demand less urgent at Chicago. Clover lower at Pittsburgh. Good demand for alfalfa at Chicago distributing points. Feed markets quiet. Offerings of wheat feeds light. Mills behind on contracts, especially for bran.

Butter markets steady to firm. Seasonal declines expected at any time. Cheese markets lower; trading active on some styles but demand slow for supplies in greatest abundance, particularly Daisies.

Spot cotton down 1 point, closing at  $16.93\frac{1}{2}\%$  per lb. New York May futures down 3 points at  $17.91\frac{1}{2}\%$ . (Prepared by Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Apr. 19	Apr. 18	Apr. 19, 1921
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(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 20.)



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Vol. V, no. 18.

Section 1.

April 21, 1922.

### The Tariff Bill

With a warning to manufacturers, factory workers and retailers not to try to take advantage of the new protective tariff and raise the cost of living, Senator McCumber began the debate April 20 on the tariff measure which bears his name. The Senator asserted that the majority members of the Finance Committee, of which he is Chairman, had sought in fixing rates to maintain the American standards of wages and living conditions and to guard the consuming public against unjust charges for things they must buy. Mr. McCumber asserted that in no previous tariff bill had the farmer received such favorable consideration. Then he added: "We have guarded the interest of the farmer as much as it is possible for a tariff bill to yield him protection. Even if this protection meant any increase in the cost of living, the public would be more than compensated because every dollar of benefit to the agricultural class will be reflected in the increased production of our mills to meet the farmers' increased purchasing power and in increased improvement of American labor. But in my opinion it will not increase the cost of living on the whole one cent. It needs but a glance at the farmers' price and the ultimate consumers' price of agricultural products to show that there is a sufficient spread between them to absorb many times over the little additional benefit which the farmer receives." (Press, Apr. 21.)

Carnegie  
Corporation  
to Found  
Economic Institute

The Carnegie Corporation of New York announced yesterday the establishment of an Institute of Economics which will undertake to supply to private individuals, business concerns and to Government officials reliable information on all economic questions. To finance the new institution, for which there is said to be no precedent, the Carnegie Corporation of New York has set aside \$1,600,000. This is expected to pay the costs of the undertaking for ten years. The Institute of Economics will be formally turned over by Dr. Henry S. Pritchett of the Carnegie Corporation to-day in Washington to its board of fifteen trustees. This board of trustees includes in its membership D. F. Houston, former Secretary of Agriculture. The home of the institute will be in Washington. (N.Y. Times, Apr. 21.)

### The Genoa Conference

"By dramatically convoking the press of the world in a plenary session, Premier Lloyd George April 20 seized the tottering Genoa conference and bolstered it up on its foundations. It was a sudden coup de theatre carried out with apparent success." (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 21.)

The New York Times to-day says: "Lloyd George has got the Germans to agree to accept punishment for making the separate treaty with Russia, and has got France to withdraw her demand for annulment of the German-Russian treaty."



## Section 2.

## Business and Government

"During the later argument in the Senate with reference to Senator Edge's resolution, calling for a joint committee to investigate the question of anti-trust legislation, Senator Stanley, of Kentucky, while ostensibly arguing against the resolution, stated the case for it about as clearly as anyone could. Said he: 'The trouble with this proposition is that the Senator from New Jersey is wrong in his diagnosis of the case. What business needs is not pap, subsidy or supervision. It is air, a chance to breathe. It is not a few hundred yards more of red tape about its limbs. The only thing that the Government can do for business is to give it a chance to cure itself, to give it a wholesome atmosphere. The trouble now, and the trouble has been from the beginning, that you have attempted all sorts of legislative nostrums.' That which Senator Edge has in mind, and which all students of the subject have in mind, is the very thing Senator Stanley suggests -- to give business air and a chance to breathe. ... What is there to be afraid of in such an investigation? Are these Senators fearful that it might be discovered that the anti-trust laws are unjust, or that they do not apply to present day conditions? If Senator Stanley wants to give business air and a chance to breathe, than let him investigate and find out what it is that is holding it down." (N.Y. Commercial, Apr. 20.)

## Cooperative Marketing

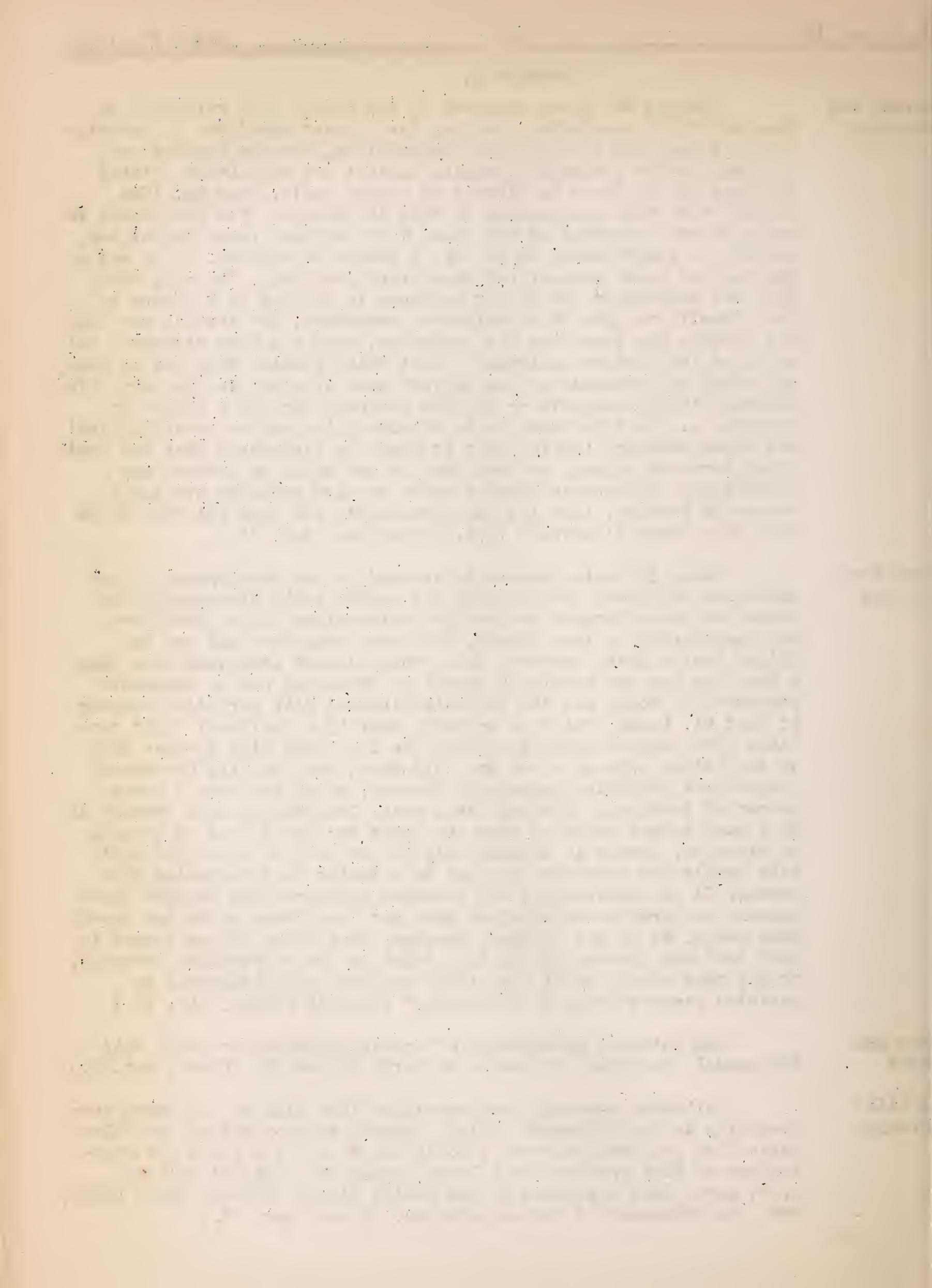
"Many Illinois farmers interested in the development of co-operative marketing associations are pretty badly discouraged because the three largest cooperative enterprises in the State are not functioning as they should. The three organizations are the United States Grain Growers, Inc., which though organized more than a year ago has not handled a bushel of grain and has no immediate prospects of doing so; the Illinois-Missouri Milk Marketing Company of East St. Louis, which is so badly torn by a factional fight combined with intense opposition from the St. Louis milk dealers that it is hitting only on about two cylinders; and the Milk Producers' Cooperative Marketing Company of Chicago, which has been a storm center of factional fighting for a year. The Chicago milk company is in a much better position than the other two named, and is gaining in strength, though it handles only 15 per cent or so of Chicago's milk supply and therefore can not be a factor in determining milk prices. It is discouraging and somewhat disheartening because these mammoth cooperative enterprises have not functioned as we had hoped they would. We do not believe, however, that there is any reason in that fact why farmers should lose faith in the cooperative movement, or why they should doubt that their products can ultimately be marketed cooperatively to advantage." (Prairie Farmer, Apr. 15.)

## Cotton Men to Meet

The National Association of Cotton Manufacturers will hold its annual convention in Boston on April 27 and 28. (Press, Apr. 20.)

## Flax Mill in Oregon

Following repeated demonstrations that flax can be grown successfully in the Willamette Valley, farmers have organized the Willamette Flax and Hemp Growers' Association to erect a plant for manufacture of flax products on a large commercial scale at Dallas. G. W. Eyre, vice president of the United States National Bank, Salem, Ore., is president of the association. (Press, Apr. 20.)



Foreign  
Trade

W.P.G. Harding, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board, stated April 19 that one of the most important problems to come before the ninth National Foreign Trade Convention to meet in Philadelphia in May is the development of foreign markets for American products without in return swamping this country with goods produced abroad under lower wage and living conditions. (Phila. Ledger, Apr. 20.)

Genoa  
Conference

The Journal of Commerce for April 18 says in an editorial: "A former financier and publicist writing from Genoa now once more asserts the familiar thesis that conditions in Europe are worse and daily growing more so. The trouble, it is vaguely asserted, lies in Germany and not in Russia, although it is far from clear whether this trouble is found in the demands made upon and enforced against Germany or is indigenous to Germany herself. Genoa is said to be the 'center of gravity' of the world, although curiously enough and almost in the same breath it is asserted that nothing definite can be immediately expected from the conference there. This kind of 'analysis' of the European situation does more harm than good and is in no small measure responsible for the misunderstandings which gather in the public mind in this country. ... What is clear is that important decisions are being striven toward at the Genoa conference and that whatever they may be they will largely influence the trade and economic development of the commercial countries of the world. ... Observers, both in the press and elsewhere, at Genoa are quite generally of the opinion that the conference there will not at once be able to accomplish the results hoped for but must look forward to other sessions, perhaps a good many of them, before the entangled problems of this latter day can be even approximately solved."

## Living Costs

Wholesale prices of commodities generally classed as necessities of life showed a slight increase during March, according to Department of Labor statistics issued to-day, and were about two-thirds of 1 per cent higher when the month ended than at its beginning. The index number for all commodities, representing the summarized averages, was 152 on March 31, as compared with 162 during March, 1921, and 151 in February, 1922. Advances in the price of farm products chiefly were responsible for the change during the month. The fall in the cost of living in principal cities between June, 1920, and March, 1922, the department estimated, was greatest in Detroit, where it amounted to 26 per cent. In New York the decrease was said to be 22.5 per cent in the same period and in Chicago 23.1 per cent. The smallest decrease found was in Los Angeles, where it was 14.5 per cent. (Dept. of Labor press statement, Apr. 21.)

## Price Fixing

"Price Fixing for Growers" is the title of an editorial in New York Commercial for April 18, which says: "In an editorial several days ago The Commercial expressed its disapproval of the bill now before Congress fixing the minimum price for certain farm products. The position thus assumed has drawn forth a reply from Mr. Israel Ludlow, which we printed on Saturday, who was asked by representatives of certain farming interests to combat the arguments on which the editorial was based. ... The Commercial still believes that it would be meddling with economic law, the inevitable consequences of which are distortion of the economic fabric for which compensation has to be made. Mr. Ludlow's answer on behalf of the



producers of staple commodities is that Congress has established a basic price for railroad rates, the unions have established a basic price for labor, and the trusts and the tariff have established a basic price for manufactured articles, and it is up to the farmer to establish a basic price for his products either by cooperative associations or by national legislation. 'If he doesn't, and the price level is left to chance,' says Mr. Ludlow, 'he is going to suffer continually the misery of ever-present poverty.' The instances cited prove the case the other way, and are excellent examples of the danger of attempted artificial control of natural laws. The breakdown of the transportation system of the country and the tremendously high freight rates from which the farmers are seeking relief are the inevitable results of this tampering. The most that Congress should be allowed to do is that which is provided in the transportation law, namely, that the maximum rates which the railroads shall be allowed to charge shall be sufficient to bring a fair return on the investment, but that the railroads shall be allowed a fair return. ... Reference has also been made to the fact that during the last five years exports average  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the crop, the presumption being that this is a negligible quantity so far as our having to consider the sale of our surplus in the world's markets is concerned; in other words, we do not need to consider the export problem in connection with price fixing, yet it is the very fact that the farmers' exports have been cut off that is responsible for the decline in prices and for the tremendous pressure brought to bear upon Congress to revive the War Finance Corporation. If the crops of the country were kept down to the exact point where there could be no exportable surplus, prices would take care of themselves without any support from the Government. If there could be a normal demand at all times there would be no need of such assistance. But, on the other hand, if prices are to be regulated the size of the crop must be regulated also. Otherwise the surplus from year to year would accumulate until it equaled the size of a full crop. The banks would not loan on such surplus and regardless of minimum price the farmers would find themselves selling for anything they could get."

## Tariff Bill

"The agricultural schedule is a formidable looking barrier for foreign farmers to contemplate, should they desire to surmount it, the rates being about what the farm bloc demanded. ... The bill as it stands has evoked the greatest storm of opposition among business men that any tariff bill in our recollection has aroused. Life-long protectionists are most voluble in its condemnation. Cotton goods men, woolen men -- textile men generally -- say the bill is the worst ever. Steel producers, shoe manufacturers, the food trades, are united in condemning it. The staunchest of protectionist newspapers are making sarcastic remarks about efforts to put business into our merchant marine while enacting tariff that would reduce the ships to ballast carriers. The 'most unkindest cut of all,' however, comes from agricultural organizations which have cut their eye teeth, which point out the futility of most of the duties on farm products to protect agriculture and protest the industrial duties granted by the Farm Bloc in exchange for this mess of pottage. It is believed the bloc has greatly weakened itself by its asinine exchange of favors with the industrial interests. ... With the proposed tariff in force, Europe can not pay her present debts, military or commercial,



to this country. She will find it well nigh impossible to pay for such purchases as are indispensable. To continue exporting on any considerable scale under its provisions will be to give the goods away, since imports form the only available means of paying for exports. The philosophy behind the bill is that we must not receive too much in return for what we export, lest we be impoverished by an avalanche of wealth the foreign nations are waiting to pour upon us." (Commerce and Finance, Apr. 19.)

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### Section 3.

#### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

##### Farm Products

Apr. 21: Chicago wheat prices advanced on stronger tone in cash market, light receipts and lack of important pressure following selling induced by lower foreign prices and improved weather conditions. Chicago May wheat higher at \$1.43 1/8; Chicago May corn higher at 61 1/4. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.44; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.42; No. 2 mixed corn 61¢; No. 2 yellow corn 61¢; No. 3 white oats 39¢. Average farm price, No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa 48 1/4¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.42 1/4; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.27.

Chicago hog prices steady to 10¢ lower, bulk of sales \$9.85 to \$10.65. Beef steers advanced 10 to 15¢. Medium and good grades \$7.50 to \$8.75. Butcher cows and heifers strong to 15¢ higher at \$4.50 to \$8.50. Fat sheep and lambs steady to 25¢ higher. Fat lambs \$11.25 to \$14.00.

City potato markets continue slow at slightly weaker prices. Florida new potatoes down 25¢, f.o.b. Hastings at \$5 per barrel. Strawberries slightly stronger, f.o.b. shipping points at \$4.25 to \$5.00 per 24 qt. crate. South Carolina cabbage fairly steady in leading markets at \$2.00 to \$2.50 per 100 lbs. Best grade Baldwin apples dull but steady at \$7.50 to \$8.50 per barrel.

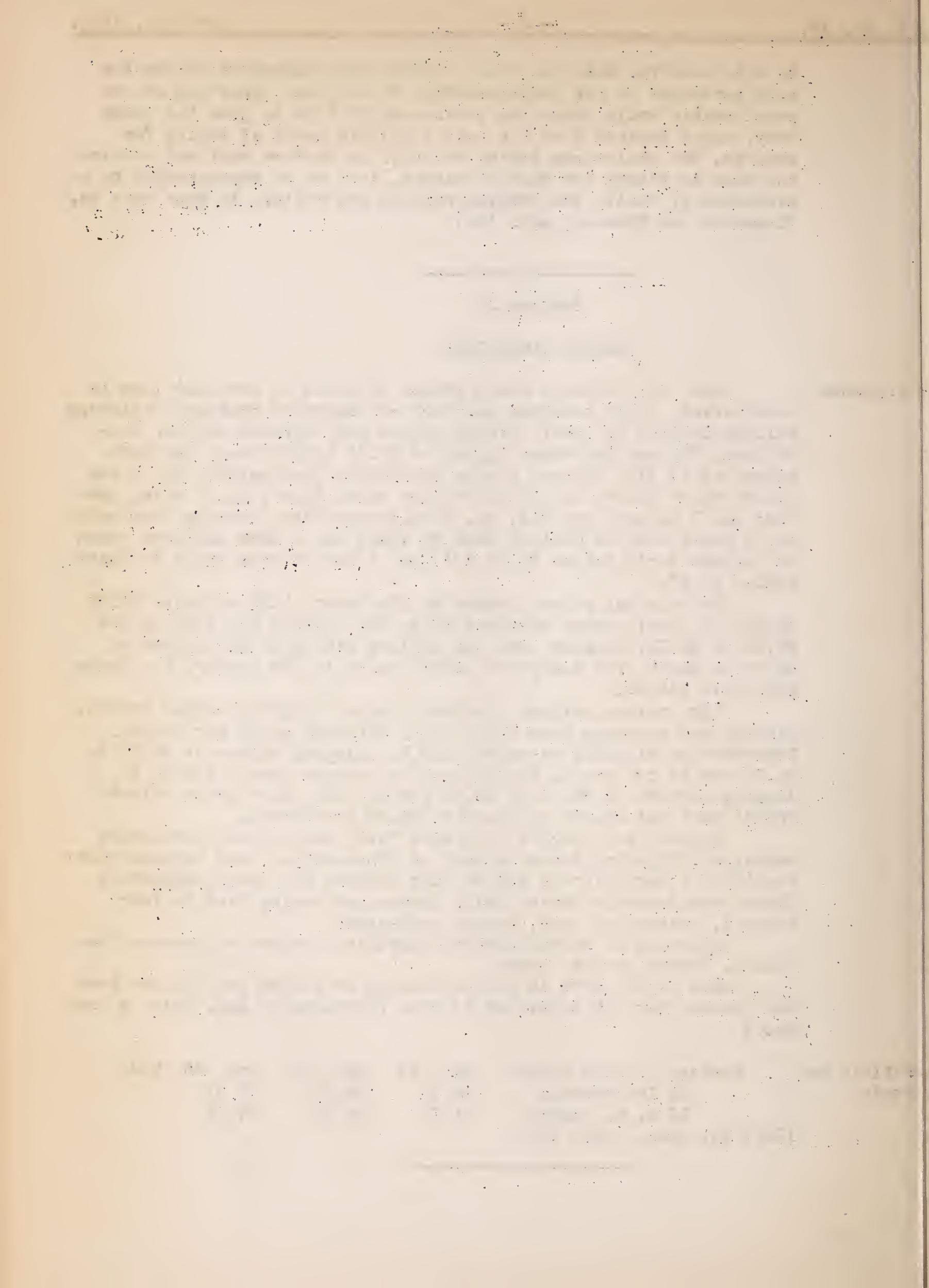
Eastern hay markets continued firm, but prices practically unchanged. Shipping demand urgent at Minneapolis. Feed markets quiet. Resellers freer offerers but at firm prices. Oil meals neglected. Export and domestic demand dull. Gluten and hominy feed in fair request, production good, prices unchanged.

Undertone of butter markets unsettled because of seasonal declines. Cheese markets lower.

Spot cotton down 10 points closing at 16.83¢ per lb. New York May futures down 15 points at 17.76¢. (Prepared by Bux. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing prices	Apr. 20	Apr. 19	Apr. 20, 1921
	20 Industrials	92.43	92.52	75.81
	20 R. R. stocks	84.74	84.32	69.54
	(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 21.)			

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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

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Vol. V, no. 19.

Section 1.

April 22, 1922.

Soldier Bonus  
Legislation

Republican members of the Senate Finance Committee to-day will hold their first conference on the soldier bonus bill, which was passed by the House last month. (Press, Apr. 22.)

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Muscle Shoals

Former Senator Marion Butler April 21 made a strong plea to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry for immediate development and operation of the Government's nitrate and power projects at Muscle Shoals, in the course of his presentation of the details of the Engstrum offer.

A subcommittee consisting of three Republicans and two Democrats was designated by Chairman Kahn, of the House Military Affairs Committee, to begin drafting a report for the committee on the four private orders for development of the Muscle Shoals project. (Press, Apr. 22.)

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The Genoa Conference

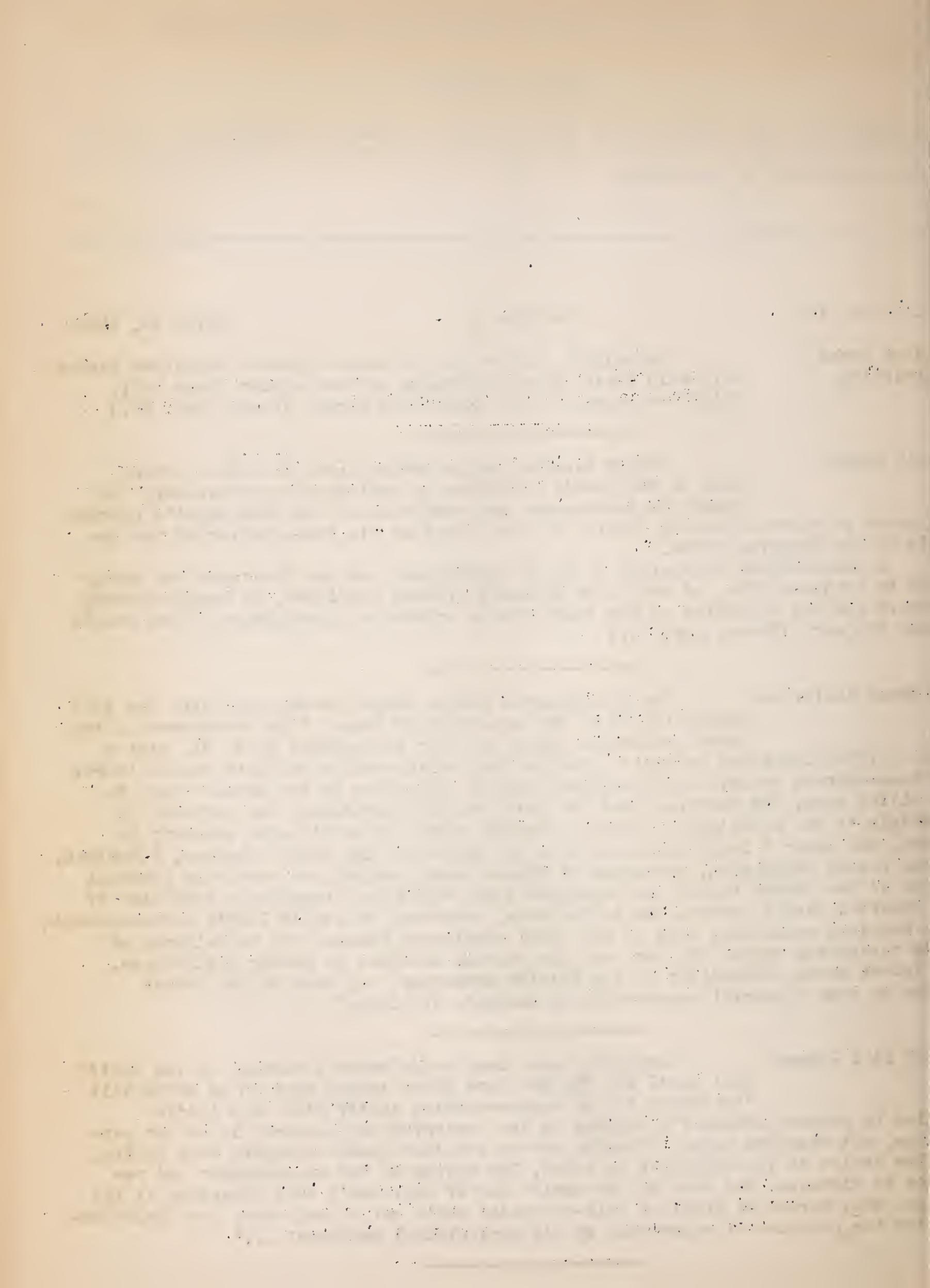
The Philadelphia Public Ledger to-day publishes the following report of the situation at Genoa: "The atmosphere of the Genoa conference began to clear perceptibly April 21, giving basis for Premier Lloyd George's optimism that solid results would be accomplished. The Russo-German treaty was eliminated from the situation by the German reply to the Allied note. The Russians sent two notes to the conference, one agreeing in principle to the conditions regarding foreign debts and confiscated property in Russia, the other a lengthy discourse on the report of the allied experts. M. Barthou, of the French delegation, protested to Signor Facta against not receiving official copies of the German reply, and announced that France was preparing a criticism of the reported German answer. The Bolsheviks, according to Public Ledger correspondents, have received assurances that in the final settlement Russia will be relieved of debts contracted during the war, and the accrued interest on prewar obligations. Sir Robert Horne, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, may come to the United States to seek financial cooperation in Europe's problems."

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Tariff Bill Comment

Commenting upon Senator McCumber's address on the tariff bill April 20, The New York Times to-day says in an editorial: "Believers in the wonder-working tariff will be a little chilled by Senator McCumber's remarks on the wonderful new measure. It is not perfection, not absolute magic. Valuable advice and directions accompany each bottle. ... The advice to the employees is sound. The advice to the manufacturer and retailer is virtuous. But what is the tariff for if they can't take advantage of it? Why are they warned to practice self-restraint while not a word comes from Dr. McCumber for the practice of moderation by his agricultural patients? ..."

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## Section 2.

Agricultural 1. The War Finance Corporation announces that from April 17, to Financing April 19, 1922, inclusive, it approved 56 advances, aggregating \$1,839,000, for agricultural and live-stock purposes in 17 States. (W.F.C. press statement, Apr. 20.)

2. Commenting on the War Finance Corporation's report of advances totaling more than \$300,000,000, to April 1, the Index, just published by the New York Trust Company, urged the proposed setting up of farm credits departments in Federal land banks, and says: "It is important to keep always in mind the fact that the War Finance Corporation was set up as a temporary expedient to meet an emergency. Unless, therefore, the War Finance Corporation is made a permanent institution the financing which it is now doing must eventually be liquidated or else transferred to a permanent system. The War Finance Corporation draws its available funds from the National Treasury. In an emergency it may be justifiable to finance agricultural interests and others from the National Treasury but as a permanent policy there would seem to be no justification for it. If this is true the sooner these credits can be liquidated or transferred to a real banking source, not officially supported by the Government but arranged on sound business lines, the better. In this connection the proposed amendment to the Farm Loan Act, involving the setting up of a farm credits department in each of the Federal land banks would appear to be the most promising agency to provide additional agricultural credits facilities."

Cattle Fodder  
Electrically  
Treated

A lengthy dispatch to The Philadelphia Ledger of April 21 states that the nutritive value of cattle fodder, such as wild and cultivated hay, is said to be approximately tripled through the use of an electrical device which has caused much interest in Sweden during the last few weeks. The new invention is said to be of Swiss origin.

Farmer on  
Reserve Board

"Notwithstanding the belief of the Secretary of the Treasury, there is a widespread feeling among the farmers of this country that if there had been a 'dirt farmer' on the Federal Reserve Board when the country entered upon its ordeal of readjustment, agriculture would have been given a quicker hearing and more sympathetic consideration, with resulting benefit to the American people. In the light of succeeding events and the testimony of authorities before committees of Congress, The Farmer still can see no reason to alter its opinion, repeatedly expressed in these columns, that the Federal Reserve Board would have shown better judgment if it had put on the brakes earlier, and against the country's extravagance in non-essentials, instead of allowing the banks to permit increasing inflation and then, at a critical juncture, put the brakes abruptly on agriculture. The fact that the farmer, of necessity, has only one turnover a year, while merchants and manufacturers have several, should have led the banking system of the country to begin the deflating and readjustment process with non-essential industries that were turning out luxuries and extravagances, and to have set the screws last of all against the farmers." (Washington Farmer, Apr. 6.)



## Farm Wages

In an editorial on "Wages and Unemployment," The Washington Farmer for April 13 says: "On the whole, wage-earners on the farm are better off than the wage earners in the great industrial centers, for the latter are largely out of employment, and the high wages that his more fortunate brother is receiving do not help the unemployed worker who is seeking a job and can not find it. As a matter of fact, the leaders of organized labor are showing more consideration for the men who have jobs than they are manifesting for their members who are out of employment. If other industries had taken their readjustment as promptly as the farmers took theirs, and organized laborers in the industrial centers had accepted those readjustments, we would have been on the high road of prosperity long ago and there would be no unemployment problem in this country to-day."

International  
Bank  
Conference

The New York Times Apr. 21 says in an editorial on the proposal made at Genoa April 19 for a conference of world's great state banks to consider European financial reform: "... Our own view is that the Federal Reserve ought to participate, although only after the scope and purpose of the conference shall have been carefully defined, or after the limitations on our own delegation's action shall have been fixed and stated by the Reserve Board or the State Department. The reason for our Government's declining to share in the larger Genoa conference was the correct belief that it would have to deal primarily with political rather than economic problems. But this need be no barrier to the presence of an unbound and uncommitted representative from our own banking organization, at a conference with other similar institutions on purely economic problems."

## Meat Prices

Wholesale meat prices show a tremendous decline since the peak prices following the war, according to the American Institute of Meat Packers. "The average value of all meat and meat products exported during 1921 was 14 3/4 cents a pound, as compared with 30 1/2 cents in 1919," says a bulletin issued by the institute. "The average value of meat exported during 1913 was 11 3/4 cents a pound."

## Nitrogen

"There is a question in the minds of many as to whether a commercial form of nitrogen can ever be sold to the grain farmer at a price which will allow it to compete with the nitrate manufactured on the farm. The farmers who produce the world's surplus of grain have troubled themselves very little with commercial nitrate, as they have thus far depended upon the supply of nitrate naturally in their lands along with that which they might add by the growing of legumes. The use of legumes for soil improvement purposes has been developed to such an extent that it shows possibilities of solving the nitrate problem in the grain belt. In specialized lines of farming it has been found profitable to use commercial nitrates, but the grain farmers who produce the world's surplus food supply have not found it profitable to use commercial nitrates." (Orange Judd Farmer, Apr. 15.)

## Prices

The Wall Street Journal for April 21 says in an editorial on "Higher Commodity Markets": "Building materials, cloths, fuel and some others are stubbornly resisting any downward pressure. These with the strength in farm products and steel show the upward pressure



is the stronger. What the course of prices may be over a long period is not the question here. For the near future prices seem to be destined to a higher level for the general average. There is no need for pretending that the farmers have recovered from the effects of deflation. Another year of good crops will be necessary to restore their purchasing power, but there is an increased activity in building and manufacturing which creates a demand. This demand is the force behind the commodity market index."

Progressive  
Farming  
Institute  
Organized

"The National Institute of Progressive Farming is the new name of the bureau recently formed "to collect and distribute, through bulletins, lectures, and the public press, information upon the development and improvement of methods in farming, reducing the cost of production of farm produce; the use of mechanical power on the farm; the development and improvement of farm animals, particularly those raised for dairying and food purposes; to establish relations with the Department of Agriculture, both National and State, with the agricultural colleges, farmers' and breeders' associations, and all others interested in the better methods of farming, agriculture and stock raising; also to maintain and establish an institution for full developing and carrying out the objects above specified." Guy H. Hall, formerly of Kansas City, Mo., has been appointed director in charge of this work. Mr. Hall has been secretary-treasurer of the Kansas City Tractor Club since its organization seven years ago. The headquarters of the National Institute of Progressive Farming will be in Chicago. (Farm Machinery-Farm Power, Apr. 15.)

Research

"There should be a well-defined national policy in reference to agricultural research because such research relates to questions of fundamental national importance and the value of such research to the whole Nation has been proved; furthermore, agricultural problems affecting the national welfare are becoming more and more numerous and complex and research must be enlarged to enable us to cope with them." (The Seed World, Apr. 7.)

Trade  
Associations

"Helping Trade Associations" is the title of an editorial in The National Provisioner for April 15 which says: "There is a possibility of great benefit for business in the ideas of Senator Edge and Representative McArthur on the proposed revision of the relation of the Federal Government to business by providing Government guidance for trade associations. As has been said, this is a revolutionary development, and it may inaugurate a new commercial era, provided it is wisely guided. It is in the nature of a follow-up of the recent correspondence on the functions of trade associations carried on between the Secretary of Commerce and the Attorney-General. ... The organization through which the guidance for trade associations would be conducted, according to a bill introduced into the Senate by Senator Edge, would be the Federal Trade Commission. This commission would gather from trade associations all vital information as to purposes, officers, members and statistics. Further, the commission would have the power to approve and give formal certification of the purposes of trade associations on their request. This is held by many to be a really progressive step. For instead of



working in the dark as to the legality of trade practices, associations approved by the commission would have the right to ask for rulings on many important matters of trade practice, and the commission would have the authority to make the requested ruling after careful investigation. In this way all matters of this kind would be speeded up, and the wearisome and often unsatisfactory method of court proceedings would give way to a more common-sense business method."

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### Section 3.

#### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

##### Farm Products

Apr. 21: Great activity in wheat and prices advanced sharply, Chicago May wheat closing at \$1.45 5/8; Chicago May corn higher at 61 3/8. Foreign crop outlook continues unfavorable; drouth prevails in Australia. Cash corn market firm. Closing prices in Chicago cash market: No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.47; No. 2 hard winter wheat \$1.45; No. 2 mixed corn 61¢; No. 2 yellow corn 62¢; No. 3 white oats 39½¢. Average farm prices: No. 2 mixed corn in Central Iowa 48½¢; No. 1 dark northern wheat in Central North Dakota \$1.41½; No. 2 hard winter wheat in Central Kansas \$1.20.

Chicago hog prices up 5 to 10¢, bulk of sales \$9.95 to \$10.65. Medium and good beef steers steady at \$7.50 to \$8.75. Butcher cows and heifers steady at \$4.50 to \$8.50. Fat sheep and lambs mostly 25¢ higher; fat lambs closing at \$11.50 to \$14.25.

Old potatoes in liberal supply and 10¢ lower in city markets. Northern shipping points steady. Florida potatoes nearly steady at \$6.00 to \$7.50 per barrel. Texas yellow onions weaker in five eastern markets at \$2.25 to \$3.50 per crate. Sweet potatoes dull, but fairly steady, bushels New Jersey \$2.00 to \$2.25. Louisiana strawberries steady in New York at 25 to 28¢ a quart. Firm at shipping points and in most city markets.

Hay market generally firm. New York slightly lower; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh higher. Receipts increasing at Chicago and Minneapolis, but prices are fairly steady. Light trading in mill feeds. Wheat feed prices steady for transit offerings. Linseed meal demand poor. Offerings and stocks light.

Undertone of butter markets continues unsettled. Cheese markets lower.

Spot cotton up 3 points, closing at 16.86¢ per lb. New York May futures up 15 points at 17.91¢. (Prepared by Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

##### Industrials and Railroads

	Average closing price	Apr. 21	Apr. 20	Apr. 21, 1921.
20 Industrials	93.21	92.43	77.63	
20 R. R. stocks	84.80	84.74	70.10	
(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 22.)				

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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## DAILY DIGEST

A summary of news, particularly of an economic character, bearing upon the work of the Department. Prepared in the Press Service, Office of the Secretary, with the cooperation of the Bureaus.

Vol. V, no. 20.

Section 1.

April 24, 1922.

The Tariff Bill

Discussion of the tariff bill will begin in the Senate to-day. Senator Smoot will open the debate and will be followed by Senator King. Senator Capper, April 23, urged earliest possible enactment of the pending tariff bill. Delay, Senator Capper said, was costing the people close to \$3,000,000 a day as the result of disinclination of business and industry to go forward until tariff schedules were definitely fixed. The principal opposition to the proposed tariff, he said in a statement suggesting immediate action, is coming from importers and international bankers who are interested in flooding the country with cheaply produced foreign commodities. American agriculture and industry, he asserted, are strongly behind the tariff proposals. (Press, Apr. 24)

Farm Credit  
Legislation

Senator Norbeck April 22 introduced a bill to provide credits "to secure the successful production and profitable and orderly marketing of agricultural products and live stock in the United States." (Press, Apr. 23.)

Civil Service

The Senate Civil Service Committee April 22 reported favorably the Harrison resolution asking the President to furnish the Senate "with the name of every person who was appointed by Executive order since March 4, 1921, whose appointment is by such order excepted from the civil service rule, and to furnish the Senate with the reasons therefor."

Two bills amending the civil service retirement act were reported to the Senate April 22 by Senator Sterling. One measure provides that every employee under civil service retired for disability, unless the disability is permanent in character, shall be examined annually until the retirement age is reached. The Commissioner of Pensions is authorized to order at any time such medical examination. The other bill provides that class G, under the retirement act, shall include charwomen, laborers and other employees employed on a regular annual basis whose pay is at a rate less than \$600 a year. (Press, Apr. 23.)

Muscle Shoals

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry April 22 was urged by Senator Gooding to give more thought to agricultural benefits the country will derive from the development of Muscle Shoals and less attention to the industrial phases of that development. Consideration of Henry Ford's offer for the purchase of Muscle Shoals power plant will begin before the Senate committee on Tuesday. (Press, Apr. 23.)



## Section 2.

Agricultural Commission's Advance Report of railroad rates on agriculture directly and through basic commodities. This says in part: "Figured in terms of transportation, the farmer is suffering from a 72 cent dollar. That is, in a nutshell, the conclusion of the Joint Commission of Agricultural Inquiry regarding the economic relation of transportation to agriculture and industry. Speaking for the entire commission, Chairman Anderson gave out an authoritative forecast of the section of the forthcoming report on transportation dealing with this branch of the subject. "The Joint Commission has decided to report to Congress," said Chairman Anderson, "that the transportation rates on many commodities, more especially the products of agriculture, bear a disproportionate relation to the price of such commodities; that immediate reductions in transportation rates should be first applied to farm products and other basic commodities; that reductions in rates upon the articles of higher value, or upon tonnage moving upon so-called 'class rates,' are not warranted while the rates upon agricultural products and other basic commodities remain at their existing levels; that greater consideration should be given in the future by public rate-making authorities and by the railroads in the making of transportation rates to the relative value of commodities and existing and prospective economic conditions.

"It also appears from our inquiry that the pyramided per cent advances in rates authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission or made by the United States Railroad Administration caused the dislocation of long standing rate relationships between rates upon agricultural and industrial products and between competitive enterprises and competitive sections of the country; also, that the railroads and public rate-making bodies should seek to readjust rates so as to preserve as far as practicable the general relationship existing prior to 1918 with due regard to present and future economic conditions. We have found that freight rates on perishables normally take about one-third of the selling price and frequently two-thirds, and in periods of low prices and light demands, they constitute a heavy burden upon this traffic. It is manifest from the evidence we have secured that the purchaser and the farmer are dependent to a marked degree upon the transportation charges of farm products. Regardless of the distance involved these transportation charges must enable both the carrier and the producer to realize a profit from his operations. The report will show that in October, 1921, farm products were at an index figure of 102 and railway rates at 169, and that in this period of falling prices for farm products the increased freight charges made the farmer feel more keenly the relationship of freight charges to the price obtained for his product.

... "

The summary further sets forth in detail what advantages of transportation both producers and consumers of the essential farm products should have, in the opinion of the commission as a whole. (From the report.)



American  
Agriculture

A preliminary outline of subjects to be considered at the tenth annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to be held in Washington, May 16 to 18, include: European Conditions and Their Effect on American Business, on Production in the United States and on American Agriculture; A Merchant Marine -- The President's Program from the Viewpoint of the Farmer, the Shipper ...; Cost of Transportation and Geography of Distribution; Readjustment -- How Distributors have Met the Demand for Lower Prices; The Federal Reserve System and Foreign Trade; Agricultural Credit System; Markets for the Future for Specialties and Staples; Uniform Grades; Storage; Extent to which American Industries Producing Raw Materials are Dependent for their Prosperity upon European Markets; Economic Foundation for Future Progress in Highway Transport; State Participation in Highway Development; Transportation and Communication Abroad. (Statement of Chamber of Commerce of U.S., Apr. 24.)

American  
Industry  
Moves  
Westward

"The manufacturing industry of the United States is slowly moving from the place of its beginning, the Atlantic frontage, toward the great interior which produces the bulk of the manufacturing material and the fuel with which it is assembled and transformed into the finished form. The area occupying the Atlantic Frontage from Maine to Florida, the birthplace of our manufacturing industry, New England, the Middle States, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, produced in 1919, the latest census year, slightly less than one-half of the manufactures of the country as against more than two-thirds-a half century earlier. Stated statistically, the 17 States of the Atlantic frontage supplied 68% of the manufactures recorded by the census of 1870, 64% in 1880, 56% in 1900, and 49.7% in the census of 1920. The total outturn of the manufacturing establishments of the Atlantic frontage in 1919 was eleven times as much, in value, as fifty years earlier, while the outturn of the other parts of the country was 22 times as much as a half century earlier. This westward movement of the manufacturing industry is chiefly into the Mississippi Valley which produces most of the cotton and wool and iron and copper and lead and timber of the country, and also the bulk of the fuel with which it is moved to the great manufacturing centers and there transformed into manufactures. In population, that other factor in manufacturing, the Atlantic States show an increase of 137% in the last fifty years, and the other sections of the country an increase of 205% in the same period." (Trade Record of National City Bank of N.Y. Apr. 24.)

Cooperative  
Marketing

World's Work for May says in an editorial on "The Rise of Trade Associations": "The first really effective trade associations were formed, strangely enough, in the least organized of all manufacturing industries, namely, the industry of manufacturing things to eat -- otherwise, among farmers. The disorganized and bankrupt orange growers of southern California, at the mercy of a distant buying public and more directly at the mercy of the packers, commission merchants, and refrigeration companies, in desperation formed an association, pooled their crop, standardized the grading of their product, established their own selling agencies in the central markets, and soon controlled the whole industry, from the oranges on the trees, through the packing house, over the railroads, into the retailers' hands -- every operation, and the price."



## Cotton

Wall Street Journal for April 22 says in an editorial on "The World's Cotton Needs": "Nearly three years ago, Professor J.A. Todd of Nottingham University, and one of the world's foremost authorities on cotton, said that in the decade preceding the war consumption was surpassing production, and that more cotton would have been consumed had it been available. The statement of this authority, with the facts and figures of present consumption, make the question of future supply an anxious one. Money and much energy are spent to encourage cotton production outside the United States, but consequential results have not yet been achieved. The United States, India and Egypt are still the sources of supply, each producing a different kind. If the report is true that the pink bollworm is in Mesopotamia, the outlook for world increase is still more discouraging, Egypt's territory is limited, and India can not increase its acreage for years to come. Plainly, whatever increase in supply there is must, for some years yet, come from the United States. The situation calls for a making over of southern agriculture, more food, feed and live stock raised, less acres to cotton and more, many more pounds to the acre, if world demand is to be met."

## Farm Exports

American exports of grain in March increased by \$10,000,000, as compared with February, but fell off by approximately \$16,000,000, as compared with March a year ago, according to foreign trade reports made public April 21 by the Department of Commerce. Grain exports for March totaled \$42,000,000, compared with \$32,000,000 in February and \$58,000,000 in March a year ago. For the nine months ended with March grain exports were \$459,000,000, compared with \$893,000,000 the corresponding months of 1921. Exports of dairy products in March aggregated \$3,000,000, compared with \$5,000,000 in March a year ago, while for the nine months ended with March the total was \$30,000,000, as against \$39,000,000 in the corresponding period last year. Canned vegetables exported during the month totaled \$346,000, compared with \$220,000 in March a year ago, while exports of fruits for March totaled \$2,000,000, as against \$305,000 during the same month a year ago. (Press, Apr. 22.)

## U.S. Grain Growers, Inc.

Local interest and local responsibility are essential to success in any cooperative organization. The plan of the U.S. Grain Growers provided for one phase of this through the local cooperative elevator. It left out an essential link, however, in not providing for state units instead of jumping direct from the local elevator to the national organization. The bad results of that omission are now plainly apparent. The spectacle of the delegates from one strong State (Nebraska) organizing a number of other states, pledging them to its program in closed caucus, and disfranchising a number of other important states, is one that does not inspire confidence in the organization and that must not be repeated. The expense of directing state membership campaigns from a central office has been enormous. Practically all impartial observers are agreed that the U.S. Grain Growers would be immensely strengthened by reorganizing on a state unit basis. Then why not reorganize? A change in plan, when that change is shown to be wise, is nothing to be ashamed of. Big men with real capacity for leadership are quick to strengthen weak spots in their plans. The time to make this change in the plan of the U.S. Grain Growers is now." (Prairie Farmer, Apr. 15.)



## Section 3.

Department of Agriculture 1. "Plant Trees!" is the title of an editorial in The Washington Star for April 23, which says in part: "Secretary Wallace Friday sent a radio plea to the people of the United States to plant trees. He urged them in his own voice, which was heard, it is believed, by the largest number of people who ever listened to human words since time began, to give thought to the forests and thus make a stand against the wasteful destruction that now threatens not merely the denudation of our land but untold misery and loss through floods and the eventual shrinkage of watercourses. ... Secretary Wallace asks the people, therefore, to plant trees, not necessarily forests, but trees wherever opportunity offers. In other words, he asks them to get into the tree-planting habit, to regard a tree just as they regard a plant that will yield a crop within the season, something to be cultivated and nurtured. Perhaps his words, heard by the greatest multitude in history, will awaken the national conscience on the subject of tree culture."

2. "Shall Our Forests be 'Developed' or Renewed" is the title of an extensive article by Theodore M. Knappen, in World's Work for May, in which the author reviews the present state of the national forests and the new attitude of lumbermen. His conclusion is: "Leave the forests in the Department of Agriculture." The article says in part: "Despite the artificial desert of 81,000,000 eroded, fire-scarred, useless, despoiled acres that testify to the savagery of their human conquerors in the relentless pursuit that has now crossed the continent, and the 300,000,000 odd slattern acres where extinction was not added to destruction, there begins to be promise that before it is everlasting too late the 300-year spree on forest wealth will be stopped. Though there are still a few who hold that natural resources are inexhaustible and can not bring themselves to believe that the profligate plenty of nature's bounty can ever be exhausted, the many begin to be appalled by what the passing of the forests means. Chiefly because they fear to entrust the national forests to a department whose land office has been intimately associated in the public mind with the traditional policy of reckless exploitation that has dissipated untold billions of national wealth, there has arisen an intense opposition to the apparently innocent proposal to transfer the national forest from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior. On its face the proposal seems logical enough, as it would appear to be reasonable that the public domain should be administered by a single department. Out of the West, ... has come a tremendous protest against any possibility of a resumption of the ancient policy of reckless use to-day and forget tomorrow. The very lumbermen who threatened to impeach Grover Cleveland for creating forest reserves and scoffed at conservation in the days when Roosevelt and Pinchot banged and barred the door on the last of the Federal forests, the cattlemen, sheepmen, and ranchers -- all once numbered among the spoilers -- have joined in the protest. It is commonly reported that in consequence of these manifestations of public opinion President Harding -- keen for logical redistribution of bureaus -- has said that though the forests undoubtedly belong in the Department of the Interior it will be impossible to make the proposed transfer. ..."



Section 4.  
MARKET QUOTATIONS.

## Farm Products

Apr. 22: Chicago July wheat reached new high on crop at \$1.30 1/4; Chicago May wheat higher at \$1.47 5/8; Chicago May corn higher at 62¢. Exporters estimate between 20,000,000 and 30,000,000 new crop hard winters sold for export.

Chicago hog prices up 10¢; bulk of sales \$10.10 to \$10.70. Cattle, sheep and lamb prices practically unchanged. Medium and good beef steers \$7.50 to \$8.75. Butcher cows and heifers \$4.50 to \$8.50. Light and medium weight veal calves \$5.50 to \$7.75. Fat lambs \$11.50 to \$14.25.

Potato markets steady; shipments continue heavy. Florida potatoes \$6.25 to \$7.50 per barrel in northern markets. Louisiana strawberries slightly low; stronger in northern markets at 15¢ to 18¢ per point. Texas yellow onions weak; usually \$2.00 to \$2.50 per crate; pointed type cabbage dull but steady at \$1.75 to \$2.00 per hundred lbs.

Spot cotton up 8 points closing at 16.94¢ per lb. New Orleans May futures up 10 points at 16.99¢.

Grain prices rose steadily throughout the week ended April 22. Chicago May wheat advanced 5¢; Chicago May corn 1/2¢. Principal market factors were: Bullish crop news both domestic and foreign; higher foreign markets, and big export sales. Kansas state report shows condition of wheat there 73.9 as compared with Government estimate of 65. Kansas crop estimated between 105,000,000 to 117,000,000 bushels.

Chicago hog prices advanced 15¢ to 35¢. Beef steers down 5¢ to 10¢. Butcher cows and heifers up 10¢ to 15¢. Feeder steers up 25¢ to 35¢; veal calves unchanged. Eastern wholesale fresh meat prices firm but somewhat higher.

Potato markets generally lower under continued heavy supplies. Alabama, Louisiana and South Carolina pointed cabbage generally steady in most eastern markets at \$2.00 to \$2.50 per hundred crates. Apple markets showed slightly weaker tone. Strawberries slightly higher under decreasing supplies from Louisiana.

Hay market generally firm on light receipts. Receipts increasing at Chicago and Minnesota, but prices fairly steady. Trading in mill feeds light. Wheat feed prices steady for transit offerings. Stocks of cottonseed cake and meal at mills April 1, larger. Production of corn feeds fair.

Butter markets steady but undertone unsettled. Dealers have been free sellers. Cheese markets lower. Trading active on some styles but demands slow for supplies in greatest abundance, particularly in Daisies.

Spot cotton up 21 points; New Orleans May futures up 35 points.  
(Prepared by Bur. Mkts. & Crop Est.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Apr. 22	Apr. 21	Apr. 22, 1921
	20 Industrials	93.46	93.21	78.15
	20 R. R. stocks	84.84	84.80	71.30

(Wall St. Jour., Apr. 24.)

